

MEMBER OF OHIO VFW CHARITIES

Veteran of Foreign Wars
Cpl. James H. Smithson
Post 6710 Wilmington, OH

NOVEMBER 2026

Comrades,

As we approach the holiday season it's always an opportunity to remember the blessings of family and friends.

We also want to remember those in our veteran community who may be without family during this season. The post will be providing meals for veterans during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays as a small way of saying thank you for your service.

We continue to do great things for our community.

Always move forward.

John W Burton
Commander VFW Post 6710



QUARTERMASTER/ADJUTANT

Quartermaster's Comments

Fellow Comrades and Members,

As we enter November and prepare for the Thanksgiving holiday, I would like to take a moment to provide some updates on our Post's activities, financial standing, and opportunities to continue serving our Veterans and community.

Audit and Inspection Update

We have not yet received an official response regarding our recent audit and inspection. While we await the final results, we will continue conducting business as usual, maintaining transparency, accountability, and responsible stewardship of our Post's resources.

Post Improvements – New Pizza Oven

We are moving forward with obtaining three competitive quotes for a new pizza oven. Once received, these quotes will be presented for review and approval. This is another step toward improving our facilities, supporting our kitchen operations, and providing better service to our members and guests.

Angel Christmas Tree and Holiday Support for Veterans

Krista is planning an **Angel Christmas Tree Event** and has requested a list of names from the Clinton County Veterans Service Commission. This is a wonderful opportunity to spread some holiday cheer and make a meaningful difference in the lives of those who may need a little extra support this Christmas season.

I would also like us to consider doing something specifically for the Veterans of Clinton County during the upcoming holiday season.

Last year, the American Legion generously donated gas cards to the Clinton County Veterans Service Commission. Those cards are still being distributed this year and have provided meaningful assistance to numerous Veterans in our community.

This simple act of kindness demonstrates how even a modest contribution can have a lasting impact. I believe our Post should consider a similar initiative or another meaningful way to help Veterans and their families during the holidays.

Our mission does not end at the doors of our Post. Our responsibility to Veterans and their families extends throughout our community.

Youth Essay Competition

We have received essays from **19 young participants**, and I look forward to reviewing their submissions and recognizing the top three.

I have already begun reading the essays and expect to complete my evaluations soon.

These young people have taken the time to participate, reflect, and share their thoughts. Regardless of who finishes in the top three, each participant deserves our appreciation for their effort and willingness to take part in a program that promotes patriotism, citizenship, and an understanding of the values we hold dear.

Financial Health and Future Improvements

I am pleased to report that **our Post continues to do very well financially.** This is a reflection of the hard work, dedication, and responsible management demonstrated by our officers, members, volunteers, and supporters.

With that financial stability comes an opportunity to look toward the future.

I believe we should begin discussing a **major improvement project for the coming fiscal year.** Whether that involves facility upgrades, equipment replacement, infrastructure improvements, or another worthwhile investment, we should identify our priorities and develop a plan.

We must balance maintaining a healthy financial reserve with making responsible investments that improve our Post for current members and future generations.

Our goal should never be simply to accumulate money. It should be to use our resources wisely to strengthen our organization, support our mission, and ensure that VFW Post 6710 remains a place our Veterans and community can be proud of for years to come.

Member Participation – Our Online Portal

One area where I believe we need to be more proactive is in **keeping our online VFW portal updated and making better use of the resources available to us.**

Every member has access to the portal, and every member has the opportunity to contribute. This should not be something that falls solely on the shoulders of a few officers or individuals. The more involved our membership becomes, the more useful and effective this resource will be.

Accessing the portal is simple. All you need is your **VFW membership number and your password, which initially defaults to your last name**, unless you have already changed it.

You can access the portal here:

VFW Department of Ohio Online Portal

I encourage everyone to take a few minutes to log in, familiarize themselves with the system, and explore the information and resources available.

If you are unfamiliar with the portal, uncomfortable using computers, or simply need a little assistance, **I am more than willing to sit down with you and walk you through the process.** If there is enough interest, we can even arrange a short class to demonstrate how to access and use the system.

There is no reason anyone should feel left out simply because technology is unfamiliar to them.

We need to do a better job of communicating, sharing information, and keeping our membership informed. An updated and actively used online portal can help us accomplish that.

An informed membership is an involved membership, and an involved membership makes for a stronger VFW.

Your Voice Matters

I want to remind every member that **this Post belongs to you.**

As your Quartermaster, I consider myself a servant of the membership. My responsibility is to represent your interests, safeguard our resources, and help move this organization forward in a manner that is **firm, fair, and consistent.**

Your opinions matter. Your concerns matter. Your ideas matter.

If you have comments, recommendations, questions, or complaints, please bring them forward. We are approachable, and we are here to listen.

Constructive criticism is not something we should fear. It is an opportunity to improve. Likewise, good ideas should never go unheard simply because someone is hesitant to speak up.

Leadership is not about holding a position or exercising authority. It is about serving the people who placed their trust in you.

Together, through open communication, accountability, and mutual respect, we can continue building a stronger Post.

Happy Thanksgiving!

As we gather with family and friends this Thanksgiving, I encourage everyone to take a moment to remember those who cannot be home for the holidays, our Veterans who may be struggling, and the men and women still serving our country around the world.

Let us also be thankful for the friendships, camaraderie, and shared commitment that bring us together as members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

VFW 6710 AUXILIARY NEWSLETTER

Your vision, energy, and deep care for our veterans, our members, and the wider community have left an enduring mark on our organization. Leading an Auxiliary requires immense heart, time, and personal sacrifice, and you consistently rose to every challenge with grace, determination, and a welcoming spirit.

Because of your leadership, Post 6710 Auxiliary is stronger, more connected, and better equipped to fulfill its mission. The foundation you built and the standard of excellence you set will continue to inspire us for years to come.

Please accept our deepest gratitude and appreciation for everything you have given to our Post family. We wish you continued happiness, health, and fulfillment in all your future endeavors.

With sincere gratitude and warm regards,
Shawn Patterson
President, Post 6710 Auxiliary



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 12a CLOSED 6p daily draw 6p Veterans Day	2 12a CLOSED	3 12p LUNCH SERVED 12p TACO TUESDAY 6p daily draw	4 4p Wing Wednesday 6p daily draw 7p KAROKE	5 6p daily draw	6 6p daily draw 6:30p FRI POOL TOURN 8p Queen of Hearts	7 6p daily draw 6p Weekly Draw
8 12a CLOSED	9 12a CLOSED	10 12a USMC BDAY 1775 12p LUNCH SERVED 12p TACO TUESDAY 6p daily draw	11 6a Veterans Day 4p Wing Wednesday 6p daily draw 7p KAROKE	12 6p AUX BOARD MTG 6p daily draw	13 6p daily draw 6:30p FRI POOL TOURN 8p Queen of Hearts	14 4p FREE VET DINNER & 6p daily draw 6p Weekly Draw
15 12a CLOSED	16 12a CLOSED	17 12p LUNCH SERVED 12p TACO TUESDAY 6p daily draw	18 4p Wing Wednesday 6p daily draw 7p KAROKE	19 6p daily draw 7p POST OFFICER MTG	20 6p daily draw 6:30p FRI POOL TOURN 8p Queen of Hearts	21 6p daily draw 6p POS signing 6p Weekly Draw
22 12a CLOSED	23 12a CLOSED	24 12p LUNCH SERVED 12p TACO TUESDAY 6p daily draw	25 4p Wing Wednesday 6p daily draw 7p KAROKE	26 6p CLOSED	27 6p daily draw 6:30p FRI POOL TOURN 8p Queen of Hearts	28 12a NEWSLETTER 10a OSU vs mich BRUNC 6p daily draw 6p Monthly drawings 6p Weekly Draw
29 12a CLOSED	30 12a CLOSED	1 6a Civil Air Patrol (USAF 12p LUNCH SERVED 12p TACO TUESDAY 6p daily draw	2 4p Wing Wednesday 6p daily draw 7p KAROKE	3 6p daily draw	4 12p NATIONAL BARTEN 6p daily draw 6:30p FRI POOL TOURN 8p Queen of Hearts	5 6p daily draw 6p Weekly Draw

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