

Greetings fellow veterans,

Hope you're on your way to getting over the stunning and saddening loss of the Packers in the NFC Championship game. A game of a lot of "coulda", "shoulda," and "woulda's". After talking to a lot of fellow Packer fans, the general analysis is that if the Packer team would have played a little braver in the last 5 minutes the outcome could have been a lot better. Oh well, it was a fun time to watch them this season. Hope they're braver next year.

Getting to chapter # 5 business, our members voted to take a brave step to improve the future of veterans in Eau Claire County by passing a motion to help form and participate in a United Veterans Council of Eau Claire County. The Eau Claire county VSO office has agreed to help promote and organize the council. The idea is that under the umbrella group of veteran's organizations (most or all of the veterans groups in the county) we could pool our resources to advance education concerning veteran's issues, patriotism, traditions, and experiences of all veterans and their families, for all veterans, media, school boards, the younger generation and the whole community.

After getting an approving vote from our board of directors, we also took another brave step to work together with the Chippewa County V.V.A. Chapter #92 to cosponsor and promote a Vietnam Veterans Day celebration and banquet. Thuy Smith of the Thuy Smith International Outreach has organized and promoted this event in the past but is unable to do it this year.

The celebration will be on Saturday March 28th from noon until 5:00pm at VFW post 305 on Starr Ave in Eau Claire. The meal, of pulled pork and chicken with all the trimmings will be at 1:00 pm. There will be social time before and after the meal for you to see the displays and booths set up by various veterans groups and individuals. They will have war artifacts, pictures, and other information. Several notable speakers will address us after the meal. Come and join in the fun and camaraderie. The public is invited.

On February 6th, 7th, and 8th there will be a veterans get together at the Augusta American Legion Post 291's cabin. It is located about 5 miles north of Augusta on Hwy 27, on the west side of the road, ¼ mile south of the Eau Claire River Bridge. Watch for a sign at the entrance road. All chapter #5 members as well as other war era veterans are invited. Spend the whole weekend or stop in for a few hours. A small donation is requested for food that will be available. Bring your own beverage. Only a limited amount is available there. It should be fun. Hope to see you there. For more information call Pat Moore at 715-644-8557

Remember the monthly meeting is Wednesday February 4th at 7:00 PM at the VFW 7232 post on Folsom street. Try to attend to turn in your shirt and hat size for the color guard.

Your chapter president,

Dennis Werlein