



One Nation Under God

**May 2017**

*Membership meeting May 1st, 2017 at 7:00 pm*

Michael Ovaska, Commander  
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**AMVETS Post 654**

It's not the type and time of service that makes a person a better Veteran; what makes a person a better Veteran is what they do for their community when they come home.



What can we do for you, or what can you do for us? This question may never be answered. Without a collective effort, we will fail. If we fail, generations will be affected. Let's come together and provide camaraderie, assistance, and meet the needs of all Veterans.

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AMVETS Organizations from the 8th District of Wisconsin



## Local AMVETS Posts

Post 32 Chippewa Falls Second Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm  
Post 654 Eau Claire First Monday of the month at 7:00 pm  
Post 1128 Menomonie First Monday of the month at 7:00 pm  
Post 1864 Colfax Third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm  
Post 2017 Lake Hallie Fourth Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm (currently chartering)  
Post 6440 Bloomer Third Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm

### May Birthdays

Brian Vaver - May 25th

*\* Birthdays as recorded by national headquarters*

## Results of the District Meeting held on April 20th in Bloomer

District 8 held their meeting on April 20th at the Bloomer Veterans facility. Many items were discussed along with the annual elections of District Officers. After completing two years as District Commander, Ed Flint stepped down as required in our Department Constitution and By Laws. Steve Marris from Post 1128 in Menomonie was elected as Commander to lead our District for 2017-2018.

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**AMVETS National Headquarters, April 5th, 2017** – AMVET posts across the country supported VA Medical Centers during its annual 'Because We Care' day April 5.

In particular, AMVETS Department of DC played host to our National Headquarters, who established a table in the DC VAMC main lobby and drew in several veterans seeking membership and visited many more while distributing personal care kits. Secretary of Veteran Affairs David Shulkin attended the event, addressing the media and numerous veterans whom had travelled to see him. Secretary Shulkin also took time to visit several ill veterans residing at the hospital to ask about their stay, their thoughts on several VA enhancements, and thank them for their service.

Thank you to our posts and AMVETS representatives who truly made this day about serving our fellow veterans, and our DC department for sharing the experience with National.

**Bill Forry State Commander** - District Eight continues to create new Post's in the previously underdeveloped areas of Western Wisconsin. The Department Convention is approaching and I encourage every Post to register their Delegates early to avoid late fees. The convention is always held the Weekend after Father's day, the 2017 convention is June 22-25. I look forward to seeing you there progressing the AMVETS family.

**Ed Flint (D8C) Current District Eight Commander** - Greetings Posts of the Eighth District; it has been a pleasure serving as your District Commander over the past two years. It has been inspiring watching this District grow and expand as time has went on; as well as the relationships that have been developed between Veterans and community.

Please welcome your new incoming District Commander Steve Marris. I encourage you show him the same support that you have been gracious to have given me as your Commander.

**Steve Marris (D8C) Incoming District Eight Commander** - It is a good feeling to have been chosen by all of you to lead our District as the D8C for 2017-2018. It will be my goal to add Posts when possible while maintaining a positive membership activity within our current organization. I am both lucky and fortunate to have members with the drive to complete our missions.

**Michael Hanke (D8CV) District Eight Vice Commander of Membership-** Congratulations to all the leadership across our District with maintaining their membership as well as continuing to grow. It won't be long and we will be working on our renewals for the 2017-2018 membership year, encourage your membership to consider a life membership. At \$250, it's a great opportunity to be paid up for life. In order to make it more affordable for your members, some Post's offer an opportunity for the member to pay the Post portion up to one year after paying the National and Department portions. \$187.50 is immediately due to our parent organization leaving \$62.50 due to the Post. A simple schedule of \$5.21 a month can be paid by the member. One other option is creating a "annual to life club". A monthly schedule of \$20.83 for 12 months will result with a lifetime membership.

**Mike Ovaska Post 654 Commander** - Another month has passed for us, and things are looking better still as we are on an upswing. May will bring us to our annual elections which is the main focus of the meeting; so please, if you can make it, it would be appreciated.

Our new meeting location as gone beyond all expectations and we could not have hoped to have a better facility. I look forward to seeing many of you there. For those that don't know where it is, the address is 2222 London Road. It shares a parking lot with Pizza Hut, K-Mart, and directly behind Smith Funeral Home. Consider inviting Veteran friends and associates to sit in as a guest, there is no commitment involved other than commerdarie. Hopefully we will see new faces at the meeting!

### **Recruit a Veteran**



Date:	DOB:	Phone:
Name:	Email:	
Street:	City/State:	
Enlistment Date:	Discharge Date:	
Branch of Service:	DOB:	
Spouse:	Sponsor:	
Sex: Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Post Number:	
Signature:	Amount Paid: \$	