



Post 7356 - March 2024

Mail Call

Comrades,

March marks the beginning of the Post officer election cycle. In the last couple of Post meetings, I have announced that I will not be accepting any nomination for Post officer in the 2024-2025 year and will be stepping down as Commander in order to pursue higher education. I do plan on remaining as the Post Riders Group President as long as the members will have me and do plan on taking the position of Missouri District 3 Sr Vice Commander this next year. With all of that being said in this month's Post meeting I will officially open the floor for Post Officer nominations. The Post Members will then elect the Officers during the April meeting and will be sworn in during the May meeting but will not assume their roles until the conclusion of the Missouri Department Convention in June. If anyone is interested in a Position as a Post Officer, please send an email to vfw7356@gmail.com.



We do have updates on the building project. As most of you know a few years ago our post voted to sell our old and dated building, which has since been demolished, and voted to use that money towards a new building for the Post. We purchased a plot of land no more than a half mile down 45hwy from the National, which aside from a sign has been sitting empty since. The committee has been working together through the design and planning stages and was even able to get the prints out for bidding early last year. Unfortunately, even with our fundraising efforts the number that we were getting back put the project outside of the funds that we had available. Comrade Phil Farris has been working with the architect on some cost shaving. We, as a committee, believe this latest iteration of the building will be one that we can afford. We will be looking to get the new prints drawn up and hopefully have more good news in the very near future.

There is something I want everyone to put on their calendars. April 2nd there is going to be a Rally at the Capital in order for us as Veterans to speak with the Senators of the State of Missouri. The main priority is to fully fund the Missouri Veterans Commission (MVC), Maintaining the necessary funding for the operation, maintenance, and improvements of the State Veterans Homes, State Cemeteries, Veteran Service Officers Program (VSO), Veteran Grant Programs, and other needs of the Missouri Veterans. We also want to advocate for additional funding to increase VSOs and increase their pay to ensure Missouri's 425,000 Veterans receive the benefits that they have earned. We want to enhance real estate and Personal Property Tax exemptions from Veterans who are 100% disabled AND former POWs to any Veteran who is 100% disabled. The last item on the agenda is to allocate 10% of the internet

gaming revenue to the MVC. So, if you are able to make it to the Capital in Jefferson City on April 2nd, we need you there. We need as many Veterans as possible to show the Senators that this is what we want. Missouri VFW Riders are planning a mass group ride-in and have invited all Veteran Motorcycle Organizations to join. For more info please follow the Department of Missouri and the Missouri VFW Riders Facebook pages.

After taking a few months off our Riders Group met on March 7th. We had a good turnout with 5 Post members and one member from the District 1 Riders Group in attendance. We were able to add one new member, VFW Life member and Marine Brad Crabtree, to the Riders Group. Brad is a Member of the Local Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association Chapter 4-1 and has been a Life Member of our post for 2 years now. Our next meeting is planned for Thursday, April 4th at 1830 at Outlaw Cigar and Brewery in NKC. During this meeting, Post 56 Riders Group President Allen Bailey plans on attending and bringing information on more Veterans and Charity rides happening in the area this year. Also, if any Riders are interested the CVMA Chapter 4-1 is having a meeting on Saturday 3/16 at 1300 at the Lee's Summit VFW Post 5789. Message me if you are interested in attending.

[VFW Post 7356 Facebook page](#)

[VFW Post 7356 Riders Group Facebook Page](#)

[VFW Post 7356 website.](#)

Semper FI
Post Commander 7356
Nickolas McCollum

Upcoming Events

Upcoming events for Post 7356

- 3/16 @ 1300: CVMA Meeting @ VFW Post 5789
 - 3/19 @ 1900: Post Golf Committee Meeting @ Public Library
 - 3/28 @ 1900: Monthly Post Meeting @ Parkville American Legion
 - 4/4 @ 1830: Post Riders Group Meeting @ Outlaw Cigar and Brewery in NKC
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ROCK THE ROTUNDA RALLY

201 West Capitol Avenue Jefferson City MO 65101

April 2, 2024 1:30 pm

#1. Fully Fund MVC

2. HB 1490

Stop Claim Sharks &
Additional
Funding For VSO

3. HJR 75

Personal Property Tax
100% Disabled

#4. HJR 74

Allocate
10% of Gaming
to Fund MVC



MAVO LEGISLATIVE AGENDA 2024

#1 Priority) Fully fund the Missouri Veterans Commission (MVC) and transfer its Personnel Services to funding by General Revenue. MVC is funded by three dedicated sources: Department of Veterans Affairs, Missouri Gaming Commission, and the Missouri Veterans Health and Care Fund. Maintaining the necessary level of funding for the operations, maintenance, and capital improvements of State Veterans Homes, State Cemeteries, Veterans Service Officers Program, Veterans Grant Programs, and other needs of Missouri veterans is a priority. Since FY20, MVC has required additional short-term funding support from the state. A long-term solution is required.

2. Advocate for additional funding to increase Veterans' Service Officers and their pay to include Grant Partnership Veterans Organizations Service Officers to help ensure Missouri's 425,000 Veterans receive the benefits they have earned through their service. Given that the state's economy receives a return of \$134 for every dollar spent on a MVC VSO, the economic impact demonstrates that Missouri should provide additional funding for Veterans Service Officers. MAVO supports legislation that protects Veterans from Predatory Actors who seek to profit from benefits that have been earned by those who serve our nation. MVC Veterans Service Officers and their Grant Partners receive no payment taken from the veteran's benefits.

#3 Enhance Real and Personal Property Tax exemptions for 100% disabled veterans. Currently, there is a tax exemption for Veterans that are 100% disabled AND are former Prisoners of War. This narrow exemption provides assistance to very few if any Missouri Veterans.

#4. Allocate the first 10% of internet gaming revenue to the Missouri Veterans Commission. As internet gaming is considered by legislators, Missouri's Veterans should be considered a priority to replace the declining revenue generated by riverboat gaming. MVC should receive a dedicated percentage of the revenues rather than what is left over after other agencies receive their percentage.



Email: joseph.l.wolfgeher@gmail.com

75th Anniversary Coins

We have 75th Anniversary coins available for \$10. We will have them available during breakfast on Saturday, Canteen Nights, and at our monthly meetings. If coming to the Post is not your choice during these trying times, send us a check or money order for \$12 and we will mail one to you. Make sure you



give us your mailing address. Please mail to VFW Post 7356, PO Box 12121, Parkville, MO 64152.



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