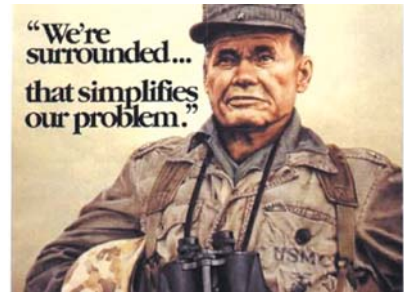




# VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

DEC 2020



General Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller

## Post 1503

14631 MINNIEVILLE ROAD • DALE CITY, VIRGINIA 22193 • 703.670.4124

[www.vfw1503.org](http://www.vfw1503.org)

CANTEEN HOURS: Sunday / Monday / Wednesday 12 Noon - 11 PM  
Tuesday / Thursday / Saturday 12 Noon - 12 Midnight • Friday 12 Noon - 2 AM

### COMMANDER'S CORNER

Comrades and Auxiliary Members,

A very Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a Hopeful New Year to ALL!! We continue to feel the effects of this pandemic in our smaller gatherings, none of the usual office or other holiday parties and limited travel!! Despite all this I hope everyone was able to enjoy their holiday. Please continue to reach out to those who may be more isolated due to this pandemic, a simple phone call, card or email can go a long way to let people know we are thinking of them.

Last month the Governor's Executive Order #67 released on Friday the 13th of November forced us to examine once again how we are doing business. We suspended in-person meetings for November while we took time to interpret the Governor's order. After careful review we will resume in-person business meetings but provide a hybrid option to participate via Zoom for those who cannot attend in person. Business meetings are not considered a social function and are only limited to the 30% occupancy rule following CDC guidelines for masks and social distancing which we are already complying with.

GUESTS - As commander it is sometimes necessary to remind everyone of some of our rules that we have to ensure good order. We have House Rules posted in the canteen and posted in the members area of our website. Please be aware of our rules concerning guests. Article I defines what a guest is and spells out specific procedures regarding your responsibility when signing someone in. Guests must depart when the member who signed them in departs and may not be "handed over" to another member. Please take time to be familiar with this Article if you sign in guests. Thanks!!

November saw us rise to the occasion with our Poppy Drive supported by two locations of Pitkin's Ace Hardware in Dale City and Woodbine ~ these folks do a lot to support us and please do patronize them if you have the opportunity. Back-to-back nights in the canteen we celebrated 245 years of the USMC and remembered all Veteran's past, present, current and those no longer with us on Veteran's Day.

Our plans for a 50th Anniversary Celebration were changed from a dinner to a small gathering in our Fireplace room. We were graciously joined by the VFW National Commander in Chief, Hal



### POST OFFICERS

- Post Commander . . . . . Tom Levitt
- Senior Vice . . . . . Bernie Carter
- Junior Vice . . . . . Ben Guinan
- Quartermaster . . . . . Tim Brown
- Judge Advocate . . . . . Star Martinez
- Surgeon . . . . . Robert Adamczyk
- Chaplain . . . . . Ed Bennett
- 3 Year Trustee . . . . . Tom Gimble
- 2 Year Trustee . . . . . Ron Laney
- 1 Year Trustee . . . . . John Dodge
- Adjutant . . . . . Randy Coker
- Service Officer . . . . . Ed Tatum
- Asst. Service Officer . . . . . Tami Brown
- House Committee Chairman . . . . . Joe Saitta
- Past Commander . . . . . Thomas Williams, Jr.



Roesch and honored by the attendance of so many past leaders of the Post and one of our active Post Charter Members, Lou Mitchell!! Hal presented us with our Golden Anniversary Certificate commemorating our 50th year. We adjourned to the canteen and were able to enjoy some comradeship with all who were in attendance. Facilities hosted a very nice plated Thanksgiving dinner and we all got a chance to work off our Turkey dinners Saturday unloading and starting our annual Christmas Tree sale.

This month be on the lookout for details of the Auxiliary Christmas breakfast with Santa as this event will require sign up due to our current gathering restriction. Stop by and get your trees quickly ~ last year we sold out in record time and I expect a similar situation this year!!

Situations change. To stay informed watch for emails via Constant Contact and check out what is happening on our post website and Facebook pages to stay updated and see all the latest happenings and pictures from events.

On the Web At: [vfw1503.org](http://vfw1503.org)

Follow and Like us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Veterans-of-Foreign-Wars-Post-1503-96167622773/>

Our Next Meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on 16 December at VFW Post 1503 in the B Hall to accommodate social distancing. Please follow CDC guidelines for face coverings and attend only if you are healthy and are not in a quarantine status due to travel or potential virus exposure.

**Stay Healthy and Safe!**



Tom Levitt  
Post Commander  
[cdrpost1503@vfwva.org](mailto:cdrpost1503@vfwva.org)





## VFW AUXILIARY

Hello Auxiliary 1503!

It is hard to believe that it is December! Looking back over the past 11 months, it seems to have been THE longest year ever, and at the same time, it has flown by, as it always does. With COVID-19 lockdowns, restrictions on gatherings and cancellations, despite all these challenges, it is important to remember that we have continued to do a lot for our Veteran's, families and our community.

Welcome to new members Brian, Angela, Jeff & Steven.

If you are an Annual member ~ please know that your dues must be paid by December 31, 2020, to remain a 'member in good standing'. You may mail your renewal to:

Karla Coker, Treasurer • 13212 Trails End Ct • Manassas, VA 20112

VFW Post 1503 • ATTN KARLA • 14631 Minnieville Rd • Dale City, VA 22193

Thank you to those who helped with the Buddy Poppy Drive ~ donations of just under \$2,400 were collected. These donations go directly to the Post Veteran Relief Fund.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Youth ages six to 16 are encouraged to enter the VFW Auxiliary national anthem singing contest, Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue! Contestants may sing iThe Star-Spangled Banneri in the arrangement and genre of their choice: rock, pop, reggae, R&B, hip-hop, country, classical and other genres are accepted. However, they can't change the words! There is a \$1,000 national prize and 10 winners will each receive a \$100 prize.

Entry will be judged on vocal ability, mastery of lyrics, originality or interpretation and entertainment value. Contestant must live or attend school in the state of the sponsoring VFW Auxiliary. The first-place winner from each state competes for national awards totaling \$2,000.

- Open to any youth ages six to 16 at the time of local entry, and a U.S. citizen or U.S. national.
- Does not have to be related to a VFW or VFW Auxiliary member to participate, but the student must submit entries to a local VFW Auxiliary by March 31, 2021.

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

## AUXILIARY OFFICERS

- President . . . . . Kelli Levitt
- Sr. Vice President . . . . . Milton Moore
- Jr. Vice President . . . . . Reginald Garland
- Secretary . . . . . Betty Gimble
- Treasurer . . . . . Karla Coker
- Chaplain . . . . . Glorious Burress
- Conductress . . . . . Jan Kiecker
- Guard . . . . . Laura Adamczyk
- 1st Yr Trustee . . . . . Rebecca Moninghoff
- 2nd Yr Trustee . . . . . Monika Walczyk
- 3rd Yr Trustee . . . . . Janell Garland
- Historian . . . . . Joyce Gibbs
- Patriotic Instructor . . . . . Marvis Jones

Congratulations to Post 1503 for celebrating their 50th Anniversary on the 21st! With an impressive 3,000 + members, it remains the largest post in the world!

As you might imagine, our **Children's Christmas Party** will be different this year. We plan to host a **'Breakfast with Santa'** event on December 13th in the A Hall. With the current gathering restriction of 25 people, it is required that everyone sign up in advance. Three time slots (8:00, 9:30 & 11:00) are available, to ensure that we stay within the 25-person limit and allow us to open the event to more children. Detailed information will be shared via Constant Contact in the coming days.

I received an email from a member who lives out of state. She has an elderly (and former Auxiliary member) female friend who lives in this area who is in need of help getting groceries and an occasional ride to Dr. appts... if this is something you are able to help with, please let me know so that I may provide contact information.

Our Auxiliary provided lunch on the 19th for the crew of Mr. Handyman. Continuing with the National Day of Service, they were able to complete a home improvement project to allow for better mobility, for a Post 1503 Veteran.

The Auxiliary Winter Conference scheduled for January, in Portsmouth has been cancelled. A one-day, in person Council of Administration Meeting will be held at Post 9808 on January 9th, for Council Members and invited guests. The meeting will be available to all members via ZOOM.

As always, if you have questions, concerns, comments or you are in need of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me or any of our officers ~ we are here to help. I look forward to seeing you at our monthly meeting, if not sooner!

***I wish you a very Merry Christmas, filled with Happiness and Love!***

Kelli Levitt  
President, Auxiliary 1503  
itsmekelli@aol.com  
703-895-8855

**~ UPCOMING EVENTS ~**

- DEC 7th ~ Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day Canteen 6:00
- DEC 13th ~ Children's Party
- DEC 16th ~ Auxiliary Meeting ~ 7:00
- DEC 24th ~ Christmas Eve ~ NO BINGO
- DEC 25th ~ Christmas Day ~ CANTEEN CLOSED
- DEC 31st ~ New Year's Eve ~ NO BINGO

Please continue to reach out to those who are ill, struggling or lost.

***~ NO ACT OF KINDNESS, NO MATTER HOW SMALL, IS EVER WASTED ~ aesop***

Remember to like and follow our Facebook page... **VFW Post 1503 - Auxiliary**



# MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART



Patriots:

We had a good turnout at our November meeting and hopefully will have a fun meeting in December! The Marine Birthday was a good one considering the pandemic. Thanks to all that made that possible, especially our guest speaker, Captain Carl Richardson! As we approach almost a year of lockdown, we must remember to stay in touch with our Patriots and their family to make sure everyone is safe, and their needs are being taken care of. Please do e-mail or phone checks with all that you know! Remember that we are combat wounded veterans, and we take care of our own! We did approve per our standing motion to donate \$250 to the VFW Post #1503 Food Basket program to help with our needy families in our community.

The next Chapter Meeting is on Saturday, December 19th. We need to continue to be proactive in helping our wounded Veterans and their families!! Our Chapter's mission is to serve our combat wounded veterans and their families. Call me at 703-244-5428

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!**  
**GOD BLESS AMERICA!!!**

Ron Laney  
Commander  
Semper Fi Chapter 1775



## FACILITY HAPPENINGS

Start by saying Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all. Old saying, time flies certainly appropriate for 2020, hope it gets the heck out of here sooner than later.

This year we had to suspend our typical Christmas Food Basket program of purchasing and delivering the food as we have for the past 20 years, but we did come up with an alternate plan for this year. We purchased gift cards at a local grocery store, that enabled us to help 92 families totaling over 500 people. As in the past, names were given to us by 5 local schools.

New Years Eve Party had to be cancelled due to 25 person limit and other concerns for safety. Canteen will be open but no entertainment booked. Reminder as of the date I'm writing this no alcohol can be served or consumed after 10 pm and Post must close at 12 midnight.

Remember if you are in the canteen and you have a concern or see something that does not seem right, don't ignore it, talk to the bartender or M/A on duty. They can't see or hear everything going on and your set of eyes are needed to help make our Post a fun and safe place to be.

John Meehan  
Facility Manager



*Lou Mitchell, founding member of MOC 14*



*Grand President, Irene Peters and  
Grand Secretary, Darlene Mays Tittman.  
Visiting MOCA for Official Visit and Inspection.*

## MOC / MOCA



Salutations from the MOC and MOCA! The good works keep on coming as we continue our onward march through the Pandemic era! Even though the November Scratch was on Veterans Day, we had a good turnout for this one!

Once again, the visitation restriction policies at McGuire VA Hospital are still in effect. A video we started recording on Veterans Day to send to the veterans at McGuire is being cobbled together from various recordings. I would like to get some more messages put together from anyone interested in taking part in the video and make something special to send them during the holiday season.

The MOC/MOCA Veterans Pen Pal program is moving along nicely. We have been sending out letters and emails to veterans all over the place! As always, shoot me an email if you are interested in taking part in the program.

I wanted to take the opportunity to thank Cootie Frank Hoerster for his years of service to the MOC, Post 1503, the VFW in general, and all veterans. Best of luck in the future and thank you for everything!

While we STILL cannot do much with our hospital mission this year, the MOC and MOCA are STILL staying highly active taking part in Post and community related activities! And the hits keep on coming in the near future: Bingo, Christmas Trees, etc., but in December, we are going to do a little something special just for us... we are doing a MOC/MOCA Christmas Celebration and Scratch for our next gathering. It will be held at B. Franklin's American Tavern, a veteran owned business that is supportive of our post and veteran causes and activities in general. I felt that this would be a good way to close out what has been a particularly challenging year for everyone.

As always, take care of yourself, your families, your friends, and your fellow veterans in this pandemic era. All the best to everyone in these trying times! If there is anything we can do to help, please feel free to contact us and we will do our best to give you all the support we can!

We are better together!

***We Are Better Together!***

Ben Guinan  
MOC Seam Squirrel  
guinanbt@gmail.com

Doris Miller  
MOCA President  
dorisasmussen1951@outlook.com

# December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 BINGO 7:30	2	3 BINGO 7:30	4	5 Breakfast 9-12:00  NO Wings
6 Breakfast 9-12:00	7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance 6:00 p.m. in Canteen	8 BINGO 7:30	9 MOCA 7:00 pm MOC 7:30 pm	10 BINGO 7:30	11	12 Breakfast 9-12:00  NO Wings
13 Breakfast 9-12:00  Children's Breakfast w/SANTA	14	15 BINGO 7:30	16 Auxiliary 7:00 pm Post Meeting 7:00 pm	17 BINGO 7:30	18	19 Breakfast 9-12:00  Purple Heart Mtg.  NO Wings
20 Breakfast 9-12:00	21	22 BINGO 7:30	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE Closing Early Last Call 6:00 Close 7:00 NO BINGO	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS  Post Closed	26 Breakfast 9-12:00  NO Wings
27 Breakfast 9-12:00	28	29 BINGO 7:30	30	31 New Years Eve  Canteen OPEN No Entertainment NO BINGO		

Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Post 1503

14631 Minnieville Road  
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193



*Next Monthly Meeting*

***December 16th***

[www.vfw1503.org](http://www.vfw1503.org)