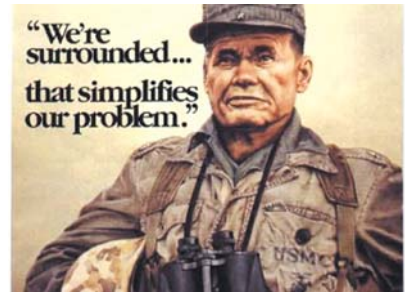




VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

OCT 2020



General Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller

Post 1503

14631 MINNIEVILLE ROAD • DALE CITY, VIRGINIA 22193 • 703.670.4124

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,

October is upon us and activities at the Post continue to ebb and flow. We had a very active September - we hosted our usual bingo sessions, the Honor Guard conducted multiple ceremonies, we celebrated the USAF birthday, held District Meetings, had a very successful week long food drive in support of our local ACTS and Our Boy Scout Troop commissioned their 103rd Eagle Scout!!

Despite crowd sizes being limited due to COVID restrictions our Bingo continues to be very successful but we can always use more volunteers - a lot of our workers have been volunteering consistently for 5-10 years and in some cases over 20 years!! If

you are interested in volunteering for Bingo on Tuesday or Thursday evening please contact Betty Gimble our Bingo Manager at bjg1503@gmail.com. Our Post canteen crowds are smaller than in the past but nonetheless we appreciate your patronage. We continue to add more services and activities back as the pandemic permits with a focus on keeping all members safe and healthy.

Including the Flag Retirement ceremony on Patriot's Day the Honor Guard along with our Post and Auxiliary members have retired 2,597 flags!! On the 18th we honored those held as Prisoners of War or Missing in Action on POW/MIA day with a ceremony to remember all - let us not forget. We also received a Platinum Star award for our support to the VFW National Home. If you are not familiar with the home I recommend you read this past month's VFW magazine for a great article on several of the alumni of the VFW National Home or visit them on the web at <https://www.vfwnationalhome.org/>.

Our District 10 School of Instruction (SOI), Joint Opening and District Meetings were hosted at the post on the 20th. The SOI was delivered by State Inspector and District 2 Commander Doug Hoffman. Those in attendance were able to learn a lot about the conduct of VFW programs and business. We enjoyed a great menu prepared by the Post 1503 Staff who did a superb job as usual - hats off to the staff!! Awards that were too numerous to hand out during the June abbreviated State Convention were awarded during the District Meeting. As usual our post and members walked away with a lot of hardware. We will take time to recognize these awards during this month's Membership



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.



Meeting.

This October we will be doing a lot of things differently than in the past. The Auxiliary will host a Trunk or Treat instead of their usual Halloween party in the Hall and we will not have our usual Haunted House or Adult party and costume contest. Despite our limitations we are working hard to promote and support our various programs. Buddy Poppies, Hospital Work, Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Committee Chairs are working to promote their programs in a very unique environment. We are always looking for new or innovative ways to help promote our programs and if you have an idea that we have not considered please reach out and share your vision to help each of our programs succeed.

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

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 21 October 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





VFW AUXILIARY

Happy October, Auxiliary 1503! Hope everyone is well and enjoying the cooler temperatures.

Welcome to our newest member, Heather! With limited gatherings, smaller meetings and cancelled events, our membership continues to grow. Let's keep working together, to build and strengthen our organization.

Our September meeting had 20 members, in person and via ZOOM! We had a visit from Post Commander Tom, who offered his gratitude for the support that our Auxiliary provides to Veterans and the community. Thank you to Paul Kiecker, USDA-FSIS Administrator (husband of Conductress Jan) who provided 'goodie bags' to members for National Food Safety Education Month.

September 11th was a beautiful, sunny day. Doris, Monika, Debbie, Judy and I were able to join the Honor Guard and Comrades for a Flag Retirement Ceremony. That same evening, several of us joined the Commander and Comrades for a Remembrance Day Ceremony.

POW/MIA Recognition Day, September 18th, we were able to support our Comrades again as we watched the Honor Guard and heard from the Commander, a ceremony to honor those who were held captive and returned, as well as those who remain missing.

Great turnout of members from Auxiliary 1503 for 10th District School of Instruction & Meeting on the 20th! Shout out to Jan, for handling the computer and keeping the ZOOM attendees connected and able to engage. We all had a great day together catching up with friends, learning about the programs, hearing from Department President Maggie and sharing lunch with the Comrades. As District 10 President, I appreciate the support from our 1503 members.

With continued COVID-19 restrictions in place; our traditional Halloween festivities have been updated! Our youth chairman Susan has a fun, safe and socially distanced **TrUnK-or-TrEaT** planned for the 24th. Information may be found on the flyer, within this newsletter. You may contact Susan at rednomore@gmail.com with any questions or concerns, or to volunteer.

DID YOU KNOW?

There are thousands of dollars available through 4 different scholarship programs through the VFW/Auxiliary! Detailed information, including applications, deadlines and rules can be found on the National Web-site at www.vfwauxiliary.org

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

I hope that you have not forgotten about our 'recruiting challenge'!! - YOU can earn \$100 (cash money) for recruiting 10 or more new members; through June 30, 2021!

Auxiliary shirts for purchase at our meeting on the 21st.

Please remember to update your contact information, as needed, in Malta, www.vfwauxiliary.org or with me for Constant Contact.

To be included on Chaplain alerts, please contact Glorious - auxilliary1503chaplain@gmail.com

Auxiliary Community Outreach

Volunteering is second nature for VFW Auxiliary members. Auxiliary members serve other organizations outside the Auxiliary circle, and that volunteer work needs to be counted. Auxiliary Community Outreach gives us the opportunity to do more with local communities, schools and other civic, faith-based and youth organizations. Please contact Karla with any questions and to report your activity kjcoker15036@gmail.com

Examples of the Community Outreach Program

- Participation in walks that benefit other organizations (e.g. Race for the Cure, Walk to End Alzheimer's, Light the Night Walk, Walk MS, Heart Walk, etc.)
- Working with local police on child ID kits.
- Working with firefighters on fire safety and prevention.
- Working with EMTs to host CPR training.
- Hosting a blood drive.
- Working with parks and recreation departments to plant trees, adopt-a-park initiatives and develop community art installations.
- Handing out food at soup kitchens.
- Delivering food for Meals on Wheels.

A Winery? A Brewery? A Park? We are exploring new ideas to replace Auxiliary Breakfast until we are permitted to gather in larger groups indoors. Please share your ideas and suggestions with me!!

I look forward to seeing you at our monthly meeting, if not sooner!

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.



~ UPCOMING EVENTS ~

OCT 17th ~ MOC/MOCA Cornhole Tournament 11:00

OCT 21st ~ Monthly Meeting 7:00

OCT 24th ~ Auxiliary Halloween Drive Thru Trunk-or-Treat 2:00

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](#)

Kelli Levitt

President, Auxiliary 1503

itsmekelli@aol.com

703-895-8855

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

Patriots:

We had a small but good turnout at our September meeting. We discussed the mission of helping our combat wounded veterans and their families as our major mission and that trying to help national MOPH headquarters get back on their feet and work toward getting more service officers back on the job. We did talk about the offer that Patriot Walter Kroptavich made for veteran in need of a new roof, but no one had a nomination yet.

The next [Chapter Meeting](#) is on [Saturday, October 17th](#). 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](#)

GOD BLESS AMERICA!!!



Ron Laney
Commander
Semper Fi Chapter 1775

FACILITY HAPPENINGS

The Canteen has been set up for your safety with social distancing, taking your temperature on arrival and offering a facemask if you do not have your own which are required by all. A reminder, the only authorized times to be without a facemask on is if you are sitting at a table, drinking or eating, whenever you get up to move around for any reason you are required to have your facemask on.

Chicken Wings are back for Saturday nights. The wing teams will be composed of employees who will do all the preparing in the kitchen and then serve the wings, there will be individuals walking around the canteen to take your orders. We will have wings as long as they do not conflict with any other events in the facility or become too costly to continue.

Football season is upon us, we had a little trouble the second week of the season with our football package but that has been corrected for the remainder of the season. We will be serving limited menu halftime food during the 1300 game, again we will have employees serving the food and remember to wear your mask while getting it and to maintain social distancing.

Halloween is on Saturday 31 October, due to covid-19 we will be having wings and you are allowed to wear a costume, but we will not be having a costume contest. Or any entertainment and there will be no haunted house this year.

The gun show scheduled for 10 October has been canceled.

Reminder on guests, you are authorized to bring any number of guests into the canteen that you want but if the building capacity is reached guests will be asked to leave to make room for a member. Also, all guests must to be signed into the facility and issued a band to wear on their wrist while in the building. The member is responsible for their guest.

John Meehan
Facility Manager

MOC / MOCA



Salutations from the MOC and MOCA! The good works keep on coming as we continue our onward march through the Pandemic era!

Once again, the visitation restriction policies at McGuire VA Hospital are still in effect. Since we can't go see our veterans at McGuire VA Hospital, The MOC and MOCA donated a combined \$1,000 to purchase several items of need that were mentioned in the last newsletter for our veterans at McGuire VA Hospital! Toiletries, personal items, prepackaged food items, and a truckload of gift cards will be on the way to the vets in the very near future!

The MOC/MOCA Veterans Pen Pal program is up and running! Our oh so crummy Keeper of the Records has set up a site where you can register to take part in the program. Shoot me an email if you are interested in taking part in this program as we will need to send you an invite from the registration site.

As you may have seen at the post recently, the post took part in an ACTS food drive. Our most lousy Seam Squirrel was honored to help get that up and running! Along with the Moose and Elks lodges, we generated over 500 pounds of nonperishable food items and some great monetary donations! Thank you to everyone who made donations during the drive!

It sounds and looks like the MOCA Cornhole Tournament on 17 Oct is a go! Full details will be coming out via constant contact and other social media as the event approaches.

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 will do our best to give you all the support we can!

We Are Better Together!

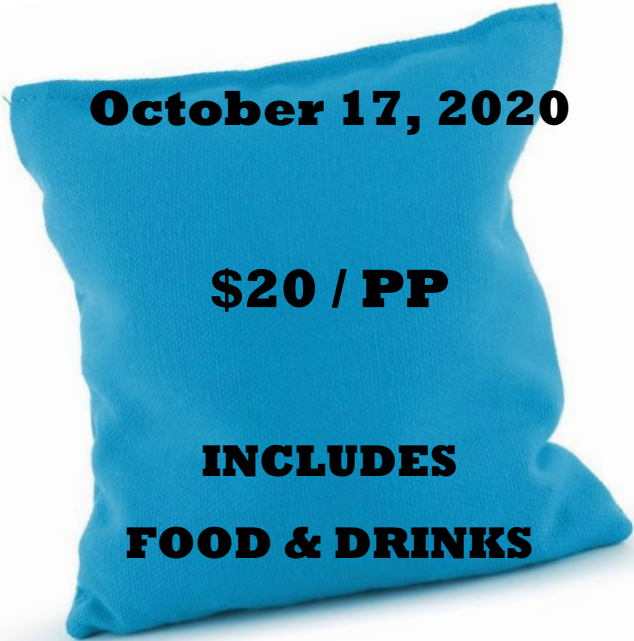
Ben Guinan
MOC Seam Squirrel
guinanbt@gmail.com

Doris Miller
MOCA President
dorisasmussen1951@outlook.com



CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

Open to the public 50/50 raffle Prizes for winners



FUNDRAISER

*sponsored by the
MILITARY ORDER
of the COOTIE
and it's AUXILIARY
PUP TENT 14
DA-LEC-174*



** teams will be assigned by random draw once all players are checked in and paid*

** bags will be provided - and must stay at each board, NO carrying of bags from board to board*

Kelli Levitt

703-895-8855 itsmekelli@aol.com

VFW Post 1503 Auxiliary presents

Trunk or Treat

October 24th

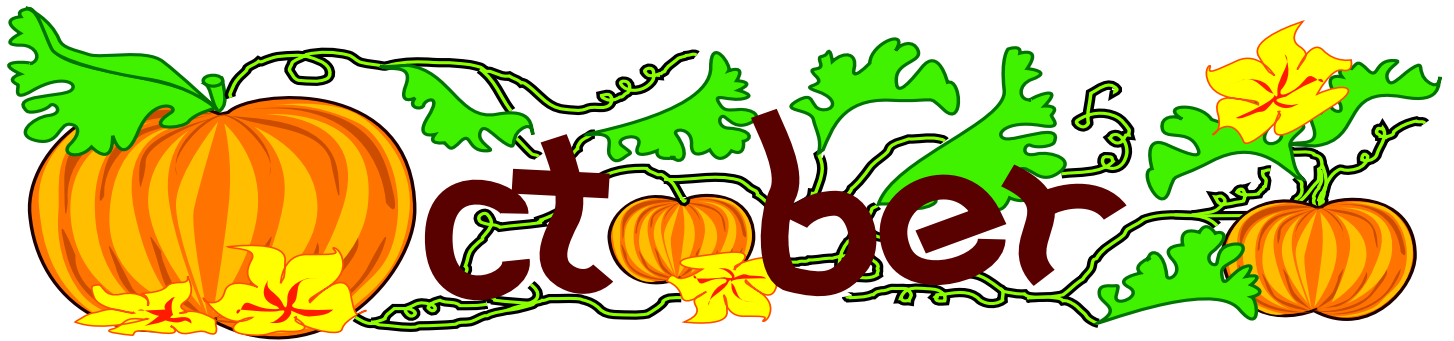
at VFW Post 1503

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

This is a safe, fun, and socially distanced way to
trick or treat by **driving** from trunk to trunk in a
family friendly atmosphere.

Open to the public





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 BINGO 7:30	2	3 WINGS
4	5	6 BINGO 7:30	7	8 BINGO 7:30	9	10 WINGS
11	12	13 BINGO 7:30	14 MOCA 7:00 pm MOC 7:30 pm	15 BINGO 7:30	16	17 Purple Heart Mtg. WINGS Cornhole Tourney
18	19	20 BINGO 7:30	21 Auxiliary 7:00 pm Post Meeting 7:00 pm	22 BINGO 7:30	23	24 WINGS Trunk or Treat 2-4
25	26	27 BINGO 7:30	28	29 BINGO 7:30	30	31 WINGS

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Post 1503

14631 Minnieville Road
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193



Next Monthly Meeting

October 21st

www.vfw1503.org

