



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Post 1503

APRIL 21



General Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller

14631 MINNIEVILLE ROAD • DALE CITY, VIRGINIA 22193 • 703.670.4124
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,

Moving into this month we hope to see a further easing of restrictions with the wider distribution of vaccines for COVID. Many of the faces we have not seen are returning after their vaccination and it is great to see you all back. We hope to see more of you as the weather improves and your situation allows you to visit the Post.

MEMBERSHIP ~ MEMBERSHIP ~ MEMBERSHIP

We need your recruits and renewals. If you have not renewed or you know someone who is eligible for membership now is the time to make it happen!! We continue to have the largest membership of any VFW in the world thanks to the efforts of our comrades. We need your help once again to get us from our current 96.7% membership to our goal of 101% membership this year. The post needs about 139 renewals and new members to reach our goal. We want to not only remain the largest post in the world but retain our status as an All-State and All-American Post.

This past month we celebrated Women's History Month and St. Patty's Day coinciding with our Post Meeting Day. Many thanks to Comrade Susan Moore for coordinating flowers in recognition of Women's History Month. As always, we enjoyed delectable fare for St. Patty's Day prepared by the staff. It took a bit of logistical finesse but we even had a visit to the Post on St. Patty's by Comrade Joe Saitta. It was great to see all those who turned out.



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 Carl Richardson
- Asst. Service Officer Tami Brown
- House Committee Chairman . Joe Saitta
- Past Commander . . . Thomas Williams, Jr.

We hosted our VFW District 10 Joint Awards Ceremony and meeting on the 7th of March. Those in attendance enjoyed lunch prepared by the staff and recognized deserving students and teachers with scholarship and teacher of the year awards virtually via Zoom meeting. Post 1503 was honored to see so many of our entrants place well at the District level, congratulations to all the awardees.

The Auxiliary sponsored a well-attended socially distant Easter "drive thru" party on the 28th and the kiddos enjoyed receiving baskets from the Easter Bunny. We also soberly paused on the 29th to recognize National Vietnam Veteran's Day in the canteen welcoming home those veterans and remembering the more than 58,000 veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Nominations for Post Officers were at the March meeting - elections will be held in person from 12 p.m. - 7 p.m. on the 21st of April. Results will be tallied after the polls close and announced at the Post Meeting. Please come out and cast your vote. Good luck to all that were nominated to continue in their current role or as a candidate for a new role.

Please continue to stay safe and remember 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 April at VFW Post 1503 in the B Hall to accommodate social distancing and will include a Zoom option for those who cannot attend in-person. 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

Hello Auxiliary 1503 Brothers & Sisters

With the arrival of April and the sights of springtime, also comes the beginning of a busy and exciting season for the Auxiliary. Elections, conventions and planned events are sure to keep our calendars full!

Welcome to new life members Maureen, Cynthia, Charlotte & Thekla!

At 97.71%, we are so close to meeting our membership goal of 100% +1 ~ about 20 members needed. Thank you to all who continue to recruit! If you need to pay your annual dues ~ there are many convenient options, please ask if you have questions or need help!

Thank you to all Auxiliary 1503 members who attended the 10th District meeting on March 7th. Please keep in mind that the District will have election of officers at the May 2nd mtg. If you are interested and would like to be nominated, please let me know.

After her original visit was postponed, National Auxiliary President, Sandi Onstwedder finally arrived in the VA Beach area on the 4th. Betty and I enjoyed the trip, spending time with friends and getting to know Sandi.

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



Our March breakfast on the 20th was fantastic! Sixteen Auxiliary members plus 10 or so spouses, children, grandchildren & friends filled the dance floor room and then some!! Right after breakfast, we headed to "A" Hall to begin preparations for the children's Easter party. Thank you to the 30+ folks that helped.

"thank you for your service and welcome home"
{worth repeating to those who returned}

This expression of gratitude was said and heard many times as Auxiliary members joined the Comrades at Post 1503 during the observance of Vietnam War Veteran's Day ~ March 29th.

Regrettably, for the 2nd year, the Family Freedom Festival scheduled for April 10th has been cancelled. Due to the gathering restrictions in Virginia; the large-scale production and the number of volunteers needed as well as attendees has forced this decision.

The "Easter Bunny Trail" drive thru was a hit! Thank you to our Easter Bunny, Jeff for handing out baskets at the entrance of the trail. From there, each child received treats and smiles at each stop. Thanks to everyone for making this a fun filled, memorable day for the children in our community.

Please join us and spread the word about our Auxiliary sponsored Corn Hole Tournament Fundraiser on the 24th. More Information on the flyer, in this newsletter. As approved by the members, the proceeds from the event will be used to help with the purchase of a ***"collection box for worn flags"*** that are ready for retirement and will be located at Post 1503.

Plan to attend, in person on the 21st as there will be NO Zoom option for our meeting this month. In addition to our normal business, nominations and election of officers will take place. I am requesting that all members who wish to run for office, email the following information to me itsmekelli@aol.com This will help to prepare the meeting agenda.

YOUR NAME
OFFICE YOU ARE RUNNING FOR
WHO WILL NOMINATE YOU

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!

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

~ UPCOMING EVENTS ~

April 4th ~ Easter Sunday

April 17th ~ Auxiliary Breakfast 9:30 a.m.

April 21st ~ Auxiliary Meeting 7:00 p.m.

April 24th ~ Auxiliary Cornhole Tournament Fundraiser 11:00 am.

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 small but good in person meeting this month. We held our Chapter's elections, and the results are Commander, Ron Laney, Senior Vice Commander, Dominique Dionne, Junior Vice Commander, David Kline, Adjutant and Finance Officer, Tom Gimble, Sergeant at Arms, Matt McGuire, 1 year Trustee, Dick Hanscom, 2-year Trustee, Jose Ramos and Chaplain, Joe Saitta. We discussed the Leadership Awards program and the upcoming State Conference at O'Tooles restaurant in Richmond on Saturday, May 1st and have a few of us attending and would like to hear from anyone else that would like to attend. We will meet at VFW Post and carpool down.

The next Chapter Meeting is on Saturday, April 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

Spring has finally arrived and the sun sure feels good. We are still, as of this writing, in Phase 3 restrictions, however signs are showing we might be allowed to increase the activity soon. Keep your fingers crossed.

We had a great show up of members for St. Patty's day. If you recall last year March 17th, was the last day we were open regularly due to the pandemic crisis. Was good to see many for the first time since then. Once again we had the best corn beef menu in town. Thanks Erin and staff for again rising to the occasion.

Easter Sunday comes early this year (April 4th) see flyer elsewhere in this newsletter for information. We will be serving breakfast as usual from 9am to 12pm. Special Easter menu will be available from 1pm to 5pm if you want take out please call the bar at 703-670-4124 x1.

Credit cards are now being accepted in the canteen. Minimum \$10.00 purchase required to use. Wings are back every Saturday 6pm to 8pm.

Have a safe holiday and don't be strangers to the Post.

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!

The song remains the same: the visitation restriction policies at McGuire VA Hospital are still in effect... but we are hard at work nonetheless taking care of our veterans!

We had a great virtual "Driveway Visit" with Jim Spiker this month! Since we couldn't go en masse to see Jim in person, we set up Check's lousy teleconferencing kit in the dance floor area of the canteen and group Zoom-ed Jim at his rehab facility! A ton of Cooties were there as well as a bunch of other post members and staff all gathered to lift Jim's spirits... we even sent him his favorite pizza while we were spending time with him! Everyone that took part in this one: thank you for helping us make Jim's day! We have a takethemameal website set up for Jim, but it is on a bit of a hold at this point... we will let everyone know when we can start sending him things. A few of our Cooties and some other post members have brought him a few things already... well done all! We have another visit being planned currently, but please let us know if you have any recommendations for veterans in the area who could use a Cootie visit!



The installation of MOC and MOCA officers for the 2021-2022 year took place at the March scratch. This was our most attended scratch that we have been able to have in a long time! While vaccinations and the safety guidelines we employ at the post are mostly responsible for that, it probably didn't hurt that we also had a great spread catered by Mission BBQ for dinner (organized by our most lousy in-coming MOCA President Susan Adamczyk... thanks Susan!). Once again: Congratulations to all MOC and MOCA officers! I have been honored to be the Seam Squirrel for the last year and look forward to continuing my role as Seam Squirrel for the next year!

The MOCA/MOC Flea Market was cancelled this time around... so instead we are going to be running a clothing, hygienics, and food drive centered around Armed Forces Day (15 May 2021). Our newest, shiny nits Star and Charlie have been tasked with putting things together. I have full confidence that they will do a supremely lousy job with the drive! More information to follow as details are ironed out.

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!

From all the MOC and MOCA, you have our thoughts and prayers always.

We Are Better Together!

Ben Guinan
MOC Seam Squirrel
guinanbt@gmail.com



Doris Miller
MOCA President
dorisasmussen1951@outlook.com

SERVICE OFFICER

Restoring the Use of VA Disability Benefits Questionnaires (DBQs)

In March 2020, despite strong objections from the VFW and other service organizations, VA removed public facing Disability Benefits Questionnaires (DBQs) from the VA.gov website. Since their removal, the VFW has advocated for these forms to be restored as DBQs allow veterans the ability to submit medical information in support of their claim in a standardized format. We are pleased to inform you that VA has officially restored the public facing Disability Benefits Questionnaires (DBQs) on VA.gov.

To access and use these DBQs, visit https://www.benefits.va.gov/compensation/dbq_publicdbqs.asp and download the specific form that is needed for your claim. Do not use previous versions of DBQs that you may have already saved to your computer. Please note, these DBQs should be completed by the veteran's health care provider, and all DBQs must be properly completed with the provider's credentials prior to submission to VA.

If you have questions, comments or concerns on these forms, please email Tami Brown at: tbrown@vfwva.org

Tami Brown
Assistant Post Service Officer

CANDIDATE FOR COMMANDER

Comrades I would like to announce my candidacy for re-election as Commander for the 2021-2022 year. It is an understatement to say this past year has been unique as we have dealt with the pandemic. Despite this we are moving forward in the post and I want to continue to bring us out of this pandemic and back to some normalcy before I turn over the reins.

I have been and continue serving our post in various leadership and volunteer roles and I will continue to serve the membership in whatever capacity I can. I will listen to the membership and represent them to the best of my ability.

I am asking for your support and would appreciate your vote for Commander.

Yours in Comradeship,
Tom Levitt

CANDIDATE FOR SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

My Fellow VFW members I would like to announce my continued candidacy for Post 1503 Senior Vice Commander for the 2021 - 2022 year. Although the last year has placed a tremendous burden on all of us, I and the post leadership will continue to move forward and maintain our status as the largest and best VFW in the world. If elected, I will work tirelessly to ensure that I represent the membership, be open minded and welcome hearing from members and addressing their concerns. During this past year, I was involved with and supported a number of initiatives and programs that benefited and supported the members of this Post. They included our semi-annual Buddy Poppy program, serving as Assistant Bingo Manager, Commemorations, Armed Forces Service events, and our Annual Christmas Tree Sales. I would like to continue being part of the leadership of this great post and I'm asking for your vote and support in the coming election. Good luck to all the Candidates.

Very respectfully,
Bernie Carter

CANDIDATE FOR JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Comrades, I would like to take this opportunity to announce my candidacy for the position of Junior Vice Commander of VFW Post 1503. While COVID has been kicking the heck out of life around the world, we have been working hard to get the Post back up and running at as close to full strength as it can be. It has been my privilege and honor to serve our Post as the Junior Vice Commander during this unprecedented time. During the last year I also served our Post as the Seam Squirrel of our MOC Pup Tent and have recently been reelected as the Seam Squirrel for the coming year. While challenges abounded for all aspects of the Post and life in general, I feel that we have persevered and are headed in a good direction for the Post, the VFW, and all veterans. In my 5 years as a member of our Post, I have served in several leadership positions on the Post, District, and State VFW/MOC levels. I am always as active as I can be with Post activities and had a great time organizing our Buddy Poppy Drive and Blood Drives, working Christmas Tree Sales, taking part in national observance ceremonies, participating in flag retirement ceremonies, scaring people at the Halloween Drive-Thru/Party, and of course having fun doing MOC/MOCA stuff like the Charity Cornhole tournament in the past year. On a personal note, I want to express my thanks to everyone for their love and support during this particularly challenging time in my life with the passing of my stepfather. I will always strive to match your example and offer the same love and support to all our brethren. It would be my honor to serve the post as the Junior Vice Commander for the coming year and would appreciate your support in my reelection.

Ben Guinan

CANDIDATE FOR POST SURGEON

I'm Robert Adamczyk aka "Check", the current Post Surgeon and I'm running for Post Surgeon for the 2021-2022 year. I'm a Gold Legacy Life member of Post 1503, Honor Guard member, Bingo Chairman, and Commander of District 10. In the MOC, I'm the Blanket Bum (Sr. Vice) of Pup Tent 14, Grand Hospital Chairman and Grand Judge Advocate. The Commander and I recently worked to upgrade the WiFi in the Post to allow us to properly run virtual meetings when needed and I've brought my own equipment in for the last few meetings to give us a better microphone, sound, three cameras, and the remote members on a projector screen. At our last meeting, the membership voted to purchase similar equipment for the Post for this purpose. I love this organization and help out anywhere I can. As Surgeon, this has been a challenging year for our Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, and Teacher of the Year since normally we visit the schools to spread the word. Even with that challenge, we were still able to get the word out and get plenty of entries for VOD, PP, and all three levels of Teacher of the Year. It would be my honor to be elected as Post Surgeon and continue to serve during 2021-2022.

Robert "Check" Adamczyk



VFW AUXILIARY 1503

CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY APRIL 24TH 2021

REGISTRATION BEGINS @ 11:00

GAMES BEGIN @ NOON

VFW POST 1503 PAVILLION
14631 MINNIEVILLE ROAD
DALE CITY

\$20 PER PERSON

**INCLUDES
FOOD
&
BEVERAGES**

\$10 FOOD & BEVERAGE ONLY

* **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

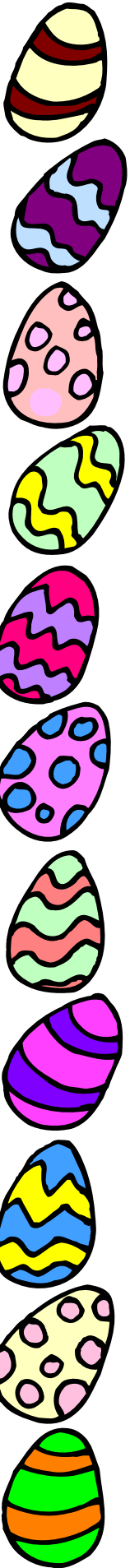
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

PRIZES for WINNERS

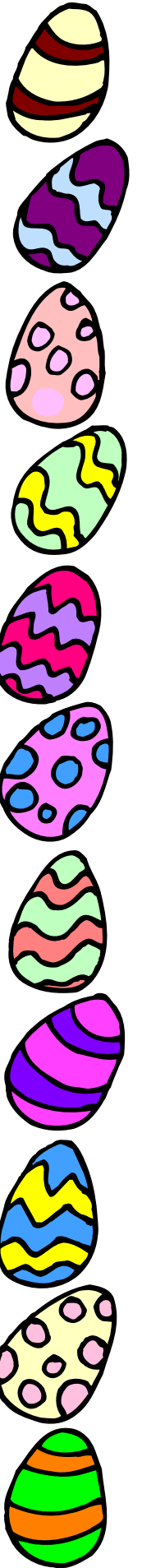
50/50 RAFFLE

For More Information, Questions or Advance Registration Contact
KELLI LEVITT - 703-895-8855

FUNDRAISER



Happy Easter



APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>We are No Longer Accepting Wooden Nickels</p>				<p>1 BINGO 7:30</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 Breakfast 9-12:00 WINGS are Back! 6:00-8:00</p>
<p>4 Breakfast 9-12:00 EASTER Dinner 1-5</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 BINGO 7:30</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 BINGO 7:30</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 Breakfast 9-12:00 WINGS are Back! 6:00-8:00</p>
<p>11 Breakfast 9-12:00</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 BINGO 7:30</p>	<p>14 MOCA 7:00 pm MOC 7:30 pm</p>	<p>15 BINGO 7:30</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 Breakfast 9-12:00 Purple Heart Mtg. WINGS 6:00-8:00</p>
<p>18 Breakfast 9-12:00</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 BINGO 7:30</p>	<p>21 Auxiliary 7:00 pm Post Meeting 7:00 pm ELECTIONS 12 noon - 7 p.m.</p>	<p>22 BINGO 7:30</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 Auxiliary CORNHOLE Tournament Breakfast 9-12:00 WINGS 6:00-8:00</p>
<p>25 Breakfast 9-12:00</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 BINGO 7:30</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 BINGO 7:30</p>	<p>30</p>	

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Post 1503

14631 Minnieville Road

Woodbridge, Virginia 22193

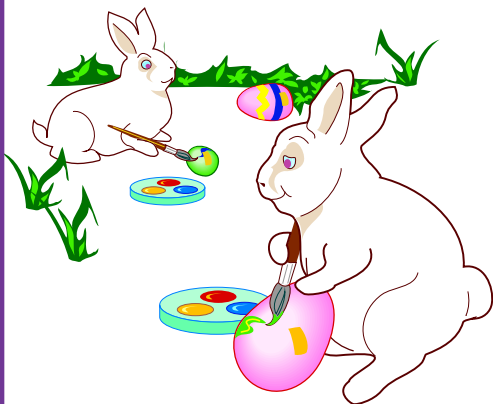
Happy Easter

Next Monthly Meeting

April 21st

vfw1503.org

EASTER DINNER



VFW Post 1503

14631 Minnieville Road • Dale City, Virginia

Sunday, April 4, 2021

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Fresh Roast Turkey or Honey Baked Ham

with Mashed Potatoes and Green Beans

\$12.95 for Adults • \$9.95 for 12 and under

Carryout Orders are available. Please call the Canteen at 703-670-4124 x 1

Breakfast will be served this morning from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.