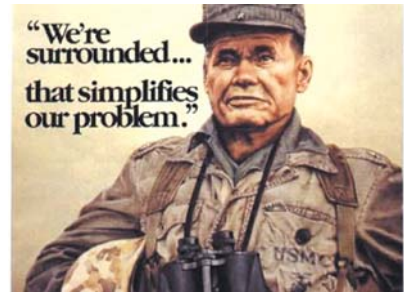




VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Post 1503

MAY 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,

Spring is upon us and the pandemic restrictions continue to ease and will ease even more the middle of this month allowing us to gather in larger numbers and stay open later. With that said, please continue to social distance, use your masks and adhere to CDC guidelines to keep everyone safe and healthy.

Election results for 2021/2022 congratulations to our incoming officers.

- Commander Tom Levitt
• Senior Vice Commander Bernie Carter
• Junior Vice Commander Ben Guinan
• Chaplain Ed Bennett
• Quartermaster Carl Richardson
• 3 Year Trustee John Dodge
• Judge Advocate Star Martinez
• Surgeon Robert Adamczyk



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.



It was good to see more people enjoying comradery at the post this past month. Weekend Breakfast, Saturday Night Wings and special events like Easter and this month's cornhole tournament are signs that we are moving toward the end of the light at the pandemic tunnel. Many thanks to the staff and all of the volunteers who continue to make our post run during these unique times.

VFW Virginia 10th District Convention and elections will be held at Post 1503 Sunday, May 2nd with a luncheon at 11:30 a.m. followed by Joint Opening and business meetings beginning at 1 p.m. Please come out and join us.

We are moving into a busier time of year and post events will be conducted under our new normal. Don't forget Mother's Day - come out and enjoy the a'la carte menu in the canteen from 9-12 that will feature a special menu. Buddy Poppy distribution will occur over Memorial Day weekend



- sign up books will be in the canteen. Our normal Memorial Day ceremony at Quantico will be a live stream wreath laying instead of an on-site ceremony.

The post is hosting a Memorial Day Picnic Open to the public on the 31st of May. This event will be held in two sessions to allow for maximum participation while maintaining the safety of the attendees. Tickets for this event will be required and limited to 100 guests per group.

This event will be held, following all current CDC guidelines. Mask will be mandatory unless actively eating or drinking. You must be seated at a table if your mask is removed. Social distancing will be enforced. Names of all individuals who signed up will be checked upon arrival.

For this event to be safe and successful volunteers from both Post and Auxiliary will be needed to help check in guests, prepare and serve food, and monitor the event. Look for sign-up sheets in the canteen or email the CDR or Auxiliary President.

Group I 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Tickets: <https://memorialdaypicnicgroupi.eventbrite.com/>

Group II 1:30 p.m. - 3 p.m. Tickets: <https://memorialdaypicnicgroupii.eventbrite.com/>

We want your feedback. Do you have a suggestion on something we can improve or a new idea on something we should consider implementing? Please use the Feedback Form under the Resources tab on the top banner of the post website. Please be constructive, include your membership #, contact information and provide a recommendation. We cannot help if we do not have all of the requested information.

MEMBERSHIP – MEMBERSHIP – MEMBERSHIP

If you have not renewed or you know someone who is eligible for membership now is the time to make it happen!! We need your help once again to get us from our current 97.44% membership to our goal of 101% membership this year. The post needs approximately 115 renewals and new members to reach our goal.

We have a new Bingo Manager. Our Senior Vice Commander Bernie Carter is taking over duties from Betty Gimble and has very large shoes to fill. Betty Gimble has worked bingo with her husband Tom for over 20 years and acted as our Bingo Manager this last year during the pandemic. She has done an exemplary job. Betty and Tom are taking a well-deserved step back from bingo to spend more time enjoying family, travel and retirement. Many thanks to them for the countless hours they have and continue to contribute to our post!!

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 19 May 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

Thank you to ALL 43 members who attended our April meeting! What an incredible show of support for our Auxiliary and our election process!

Welcome to our three new life members – Abbey, Lindsay and Janet. We currently have 903 paid members. With 17 additional members needed to meet our membership goal, I am asking for your help! Please keep asking everyone if they are eligible to join and get them signed up!



I am delighted to announce the newly elected VFW Auxiliary 1503 Officers for the 2021-2022 year:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| President | Kelli Levitt |
| Sr Vice President | Elizabeth Marlowe |
| Jr Vice President | Deborah Nichols |
| Treasurer | Karla Coker |
| Chaplain | Andrea Anderson |
| Conductress | Jan Kiecker |
| Guard | Donna Morton |
| 3rd Year Trustee | Stacey Watkins |

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

There were eight of us on the 17th who met for breakfast at the Post. As always, great food and conversation! Plan to join us this month on the 15th at 9:30!

I look forward to serving our Veterans, their families and our community with each of you. I am confident that as we work together, have fun and learn, our Auxiliary will strengthen and shine!



Our annual Cornhole Tournament Fundraiser was a huge success! THANK YOU to everyone who played, cooked, donated, collected money, brought food, sold 50/50 tickets, set up, cleaned up, brought the music, kept score and made sure no one was thirsty!! Together, we raised over \$1000, which will be used to purchase a Flag Retirement Box for our Post.

Annual Members – if you have not yet paid your dues, you still have time! Please contact our Treasurer, Karla Coker for information – kjcoker1503@gmail.com

If you need to update your contact information or you have not created an account on the Auxiliary National website <https://vfwauxiliary.org> please do so!! Click on MALTA member log in.

With the beginning of a new Auxiliary year quickly approaching, there are many ways that you can get involved! Please consider helping – our Auxiliary needs you! For a lot of members, it has been a hot minute since we've seen you! I would like to personally invite you to attend an upcoming meeting, stop by the Canteen for lunch or a beverage, or volunteer with Bingo.

Volunteers are needed during the Memorial Day Buddy Poppy drive. Look for the sign-up book inside the Canteen and help out with a shift or two.

Poppies, a symbol of death in war, have been worn on Memorial Day to remember the Fallen.

Hear from those who assemble the mighty little flowers in the following video:

“The Veterans Behind the Buddy Poppy”

Read a poem here:

“In Flanders Fields”

10th District Convention – May 2nd. Post 1503. All are encouraged to attend! Please join us for lunch at 11:30, with the meeting to follow at 1:00.

Department of Virginia VFW/Auxiliary Convention – June 3-6, in Portsmouth, VA. Registration is required.

National Convention – July 31 - August 6. The original venue of Baltimore has been cancelled. NEW LOCATION details coming soon. Registration is required.

To all of our Mom's ~ I wish you a blessed and fun filled Mother's Day!

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

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 gave out the MOPH Leadership awards at our Chapter meeting this month. There is only one school that is not participating this year. The Chapter performed a financial audit, and everything is looking good. We have 8 attending the upcoming State conference at O'Toole's restaurant in Richmond on Saturday, May 1st, we will leave VFW Post at 0830 and carpool down. We decided to try and conduct a Viola Drive on Saturday, August 14th this year, more details to follow.

The next Chapter Meeting is on Saturday, May 15th. 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

Maybe just maybe we might be seeing that elusive light at the end of the tunnel of the pandemic road. We just got the OK from the Governors office to be able to break out the bar stools and belly up to the bar. Yes that's right we are allowed to sit at the bar as long as we maintain the 6 foot social distancing requirement and wearing a mask while not eating or drinking. Remember if you are at the bar area no congregating allowed at any time with others that would infringe on the 6 ft. rule.

At our recent BOD meeting we had a fairly lengthy discussion about our WING sales on Saturday nights. It was decided to keep the prices at .90 cent per wing for now and we are working on coming up with some new ways to sell them such as packages that combine the wings with fries or hush puppies and Cole slaw etc. We will have a game plan to that effect sometime during the month of May or June at the latest. It's an issue because of the fluctuation of wing prices from week to week plus now having paid staff instead of the volunteer program we had for years.

Just as a reminder the canteen area has policy's in place that you are asked to follow if something you have a issue with needs to be brought to our attention or corrected. We can't fix what we don't know about. Please if there is a issue let the bartender or M/A know about it when it happens so it can be be addressed immediately. Recently we seem to be hearing things that happened a few days to a week after the fact, and by that time it's hard to do what has to be done to correct and or train those who need to be talked to. Again if there's a problem, please let me know.

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!

Same old song and dance: the visitation restriction policies at McGuire VA Hospital are still in effect... but we are hard at work nonetheless taking care of our veterans!

Last month our lousy MOCA started us off on a couple of trips taking cool, helpful, and needed things down to our veterans at McGuire! On this trip: 18 high-end digital alarm clocks were sent down for veterans' rooms in the Polytrauma Rehabilitation Center and a bunch of Xbox games for the Spinal Cord Injury ward's recreation room. In the next few weeks, the MOC will be delivering some mobile device charging stations that have been purchased for our folks down at the hospital and we have a list of other cool stuff that we will be picking up and delivering down there as well... stuff like FitMi Therapy software, games, musical equipment, utility carts, etc. We are proud to be working with McGuire to fulfill the wish lists that patients and staff put together!



Our "Driveway Visit" series is still in progress! We are still in the planning/coordination phase with the veterans and families we have in mind for visits... if you are interested in coming with us, reach out to MOC and MOCA members for info on upcoming visits. If you have or know anyone that could use a Cootie visit, please reach out and let us know!

The MOC/MOCA Food and Clothing Drive is up and running at the Post! The big day of the drive will be on Armed Forces Day (15 May 2021) in the Pavilion from 1100-1800! But leading up to that, we have placed bins in the front hallway and the convention room hallway for donations to be made any time that is convenient for people. We are looking for unexpired goods, non-perishable foods, and gently used clothing. All donated items will be sent to our local ACTS charity and the Purple Heart. Spring cleaning? This may be a good way to help with that! Thank you to all who donate!

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

May 15th
11am-6pm

FOOD & CLOTHES DRIVE

Hosted by
MOC/MOCA



All clothing and
food will be
donated to:



Items accepted:

- unexpired goods or non-perishable foods •
- gently used clothing

CAN'T MAKE IT THE
DAY OF THE DRIVE?

DROP OFF

BOXES

ALSO LOCATED

SPRING CLEANING?
WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU
RID OF ALL THOSE UNWANTED
CLOTHING ITEMS.

Join us!

VFW POST 1503
14631 Minnieville Rd
Dale City, Va

Hallway near A & B Halls • Canteen Foyer
April 21st - May 15th





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>We are No Longer Accepting Wooden Nickels</p>						<p>1 Breakfast 9-12:00 WINGS are Back! 6:00-8:00</p>
<p>2 Breakfast 9-12:00</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 BINGO 7:30</p>	<p>5 </p>	<p>6 BINGO 7:30</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 Breakfast 9-12:00 WINGS are Back! 6:00-8:00</p>
<p>9 Breakfast 9-12:00 Mothers Day</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 BINGO 7:30</p>	<p>12 MOCA 7:00 pm MOC 7:30 pm</p>	<p>13 BINGO 7:30</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 Food &Clothing Drive Breakfast 9-12 Purple Heart Mtg. WINGS 6:00-8:00</p>
<p>16 Breakfast 9-12:00</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 BINGO 7:30</p>	<p>19 Auxiliary 7:00 pm Post Meeting 7:00 pm</p>	<p>20 BINGO 7:30</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 Breakfast 9-12:00 WINGS are Back! 6:00-8:00</p>
<p>23 Breakfast 9-12:00 30 Buddy Poppies Breakfast 9-12</p>	<p>24 31 </p>	<p>25 BINGO 7:30</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 BINGO 7:30</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 Buddy Poppies Breakfast 9-12:00 WINGS 6:00-8:00</p>

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Post 1503

14631 Minnieville Road
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193



Next Monthly Meeting

May 19th

vfw1503.org



Sunday, May 9th

Breakfast Specials

Eggs Benedict

Chicken and Waffles

Waffles with Strawberries

and Whipped Cream

French Toast

Omelettes

Sausage Gravy and Much More!