



SEP 21

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Post 1503



General Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller

14631 MINNIEVILLE ROAD • DALE CITY, VIRGINIA 22193 • 703.670.4124

vfw1503.org

CANTEEN HOURS: Mon 12 PM - 11 PM • Tues 12 PM - 12 AM • Wed 12 PM - 11 PM
Thur 12 PM - 12 AM • Fri 12 PM - 12:30 AM • Sat 9 AM - 12:30 AM • Sun 9 AM - 7 PM

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Comrades and Auxiliary Members,

The decision to close the post for 14 days was due to a recent COVID outbreak among our members and staff. It is important that we all continue to protect ourselves during this resurgence of the pandemic and continue to follow CDC guidelines to reduce the spread. Wash your hands frequently and wear a mask if you are not fully vaccinated. If you are not vaccinated against COVID, please consider doing so – this is a personal choice but I do believe it helps reduce the spread of COVID. Please do not come to the post if you have been exposed to COVID, are feeling sick or experiencing any symptoms of COVID.



POST OFFICERS

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



In August we attended our National Convention in Kansas City and were able to celebrate a great year with Virginia's first VFW Commander in Chief, Hal Roesch. We celebrated the 231st Birthday of our Coast Guard earlier this month. On the 7th we recognized National Purple Heart Day and partnered with the Band of Brothers on their Poker Run to support McGuire VA Hospital. Our Friday and Saturday night entertainment continues but was cut short this month due to our closure and we had to re-schedule our Golf Tournament for the 27th to 10 September. We appreciate everyone's understanding and patience.

When we re-open on the 7th of September we have a lot of activity that will be happening. Our Post Golf tournament will be on the 10th along with the National Day of Service where Mr. Handyman will be completing a project for a post member.

The 11th at 3 p.m. we are commemorating Patriot's Day and the 20th anniversary of the September 11th attacks where we lost one of our own at the Pentagon, Jaime Fallon. We will also be remembering all POWs and MIAs on the 17th at 5 p.m. in another ceremony. All are invited and encouraged to attend these ceremonies which will feature taps performed by retired SGM Mike Cano former Group Leader of the United States Army Band Herald Trumpets.

On the 18th we will celebrate the 74th Birthday of the US Air Force in the canteen with a special guest speaker and toast. District 10 is hosting School of Instruction on the 26th in the A hall starting at 9 a.m. followed by lunch at 12 p.m., District 10 Joint Opening at 1 p.m. and District meeting at 1:15 p.m. – please come out and support our District.

I was contacted by a veteran doing a doctoral research project on veteran's use of their GI Bill benefits. If you are interested in answering a few short survey questions to assist a fellow veteran doing doctoral research please follow the link to this short survey. You may remain anonymous: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZN7JCVV>

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 [15 September](#) at VFW Post 1503 in the meeting room. Please follow CDC recommendations for face coverings and attend only if you are healthy. We will continue to conduct in-person only meetings unless there is a compelling reason to add a Zoom option.

Stay Healthy and Safe!

[Tom Levitt](#)

Post Commander

cdrpost1503@vfwva.org



VFW AUXILIARY

Happy September Auxiliary Brothers & Sisters!

It's great to hear the rumble of the school buses again! Wishing all students, teachers and staff a safe and fun year.

Welcome to our new members – Cynthia, Crockett, Nina, Doris, Crystal & Austin. Hope to see you soon!



UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President Kelli Levitt
 Sr. Vice President . . . Elizabeth Marlowe
 Jr. Vice President Deborah Nichols
 Secretary Betty Gimble
 Treasurer Karla Coker
 Chaplain Andrea Anderson
 Conductress Jan Kiecker
 Guard Donna Morton
 1st Yr Trustee Monika Walczyk
 2nd Yr Trustee Janell Garland
 3rd Yr Trustee Stacey Watkins
 Historian Joyce Gibbs
 Patriotic Instructor Regina Meehan

The morning of the 21st was a go for Auxiliary breakfast! Monika, Betty, Joyce, Donna, Sue, Debbie, Arita and Karla enjoyed a meal together and lots of conversation. Hope you will join us on the 18th, we have a great time!

A word about membership applications... Please ensure that ALL required information is complete and legible! Also, that payment info and proof of eligibility (if needed) are attached. Don't forget your name and membership number for our Recruiter Challenge!

All are welcome and encouraged to attend our District 10 School of Instruction!! Sunday, September 26th Post 1503 'B' Hall.

- Coffee & Pastries – 9am
- Sol – 9:30 - 11:30
- Lunch (no charge) – 12:00
- Joint Opening – 1:00
- District 10 Auxiliary Mtg – 1:15

SEPTEMBER IS SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

The Auxiliary uses the teardrop as a conversation starter, to promote awareness and show concern about the rates of suicides among veterans and military personnel - we want everyone to be aware of the unique stresses that face them. Reach out, lend an ear and be a friend to someone in need today.



text 838255
or chat online at
VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat.

As we prepare to honor and remember the tragic events of September 11th, I encourage you to also remember the tremendous feeling of unity and pride that was displayed across this great country for our service members, one another, first responders and our flag.

One day that changed everything – let us never forget.



If you are an Annual member and you have not paid your 2022 dues, (\$25) please do so right away! For any questions or concerns, please contact our Treasurer Karla at kjcoker1503@gmail.com

You may drop payment off at the post, mail it or renew online at www.vfwauxiliary.org and click on MALTA member log in.

Reminder: Auxiliary Volunteer Incentive Program – rules and information may be found at <https://forms.gle/S8rhSSGZA8mn9W3fA>.

If you have not attended a meeting since joining, please do so! We have a welcome bag for you and would like to meet you!

UPCOMING DATES/EVENTS

- SEPT 6th – Labor Day Holiday
- SEPT 10TH – National Day of Service
VFW Golf Tournament
- SEPT 11th – Patriot Day Remembrance 3:00
- SEPT 12th – Grandparents Day
- SEPT 15th – Auxiliary Mtg 7:00
- SEPT 17th – POW/MIA Remembrance 5:00
- SEPT 18th – Air Force BD 6:00
- SEPT 26th – District 10 Sol 9:30
Gold Star Mother's & Family'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](#)

VFW POST 1503 INTERVIEW PROJECT



You are invited to follow along as VFW 1503 Auxiliary SVP Elizabeth continues her interview series. Her writings will grow into a collection of the rich histories and experiences of our beloved combat veterans. Please click [HERE](#) to read about her interview with Lionel.

If you would like to share your story, you may reach Elizabeth at mebethles@gmail.com



FACILITY HAPPENINGS

I'm writing this article on Tuesday, Aug 24th and have just put up the **POST CLOSED** signs on our doors. We will be reopening on Tuesday, September 7th for business as usual. We have closed before, usually because of weather conditions. This one is related to COVID protocol, after we had confirmed positive cases for both our employees and members who have been here. We are getting the building sprayed tomorrow as a safety measure and will have it ready for everyone by the 7th.

Reminder if you have had your shots no mask is necessary. If you have not had your shots then you must wear a mask at all times when your in the canteen unless you are eating or drinking.

On a brighter note, want to let every know that Barb has had her baby. Harper Ann Cox was born on 8/20/21 coming in at 7lbs 4oz. Both mom and Harper are doing well.

NFL football season is here. We have again contracted for the **NFL PACKAGE**. Will follow as in the past and have **Free Food** for each 1 o'clock game on Sundays at halftime. TV's will be controlled by the M/A and bartenders on duty each week. Need you here at least 1/2 hour prior to kick off if your requesting a particular game. We will do our best to accommodate all but might not be on the TV you want.

See flyer elsewhere in this a newsletter for Sept. entertainment.

We are also going to have **WACKY WACKY Wednesday's** this month on the **8th ALL AMERICAN BBQ Specials** and the **22nd SEAFOOD Specials**. And of course **Kim's** world famous **MARGARITAS** will also be available.

FRIDAY NITE DINNERS BACK 5 TO 9

WINGS SATURDAY 6 TO 8

John Meehan
Facility Manager

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

Patriots:

Thanks to all Patriots that attended the National Purple Heart Day Ceremony on Saturday, August 7th at Mt. Vernon. The Chapter will do a Viola Drive sometime in September once we get approval from the Food Lion and Pitkins Hardware. I will send out an e-mail once this approval comes thru. The VFW will do a service in the canteen on Patriots Day – 20th anniversary of 9/11 @ 1500. We are still planning a cookout for our Chapter at the VFW at noon or earlier at our Chapter meeting on Saturday, September 18th. Meeting starts @ 1000. Also, the U.S. Air Force celebrates their Birthday in the canteen on the 18th.

The next Chapter Meeting is on Saturday, September 18th. 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

MOC / MOCA

Salutations from the MOC and MOCA! Another great turnout for our scratch in August! Between the MOC and MOCA, we approved \$600.00 to purchase healthy food and snacks for donation to McGuire VA hospital! The visitation restriction policies are still in place at McGuire VA Hospital, but we are now able to arrange donation drop-offs with the hospital... and that we did on Friday, Aug 19 on our way down to the Cootie Safari (more on that later)! Thanks to the Adamczyk clan for helping with the drop-off... we dropped off a literal truck load of good stuff like SmartPop, trail mix, low-fat Greek yogurt and frozen fruit for smoothies, Gatorade, fresh fruits and vegetables, herbs and spices... and we finally delivered the big charging stations for the wards we support. They were ecstatic to get everything and thanked us for our support for the healthy dietary lifestyle training and cooking classes the hospital is focusing on!

The MOC/MOCA had a fun day supporting the Band of Brothers USMC MRC VA Hospital Poker Run on Saturday, Aug 7 at the post. The event was well organized, and everyone had a great time! The BoB was very pleased and thankful for the support that both the Post and MOC/MOCA provided and are looking forward to our next collaboration. We even had a bunch of Cooties go on the run itself and had a blast doing so! I want to thank the Post personnel for their help in making this a successful event, particularly Jimmy Novak for helping your faithful narrator with getting things set up, John Bargiel for getting up way too early and making a boatload of awesome breakfast sandwiches and the kitchen staff for helping get things set up, and our awesome bartender Kim Van Horn for keeping the bar running with her usual expertise and wonderful demeanor! We can't do anything cool like this without the superb support of our Post staff so... **BIG THANKS** from the MOC/MOCA!





The 2021 Cootie Safari is in the books and ooohhh boy did we have a great time! Post 3160/Pup Tent 1 in Norfolk, VA hosted the event and did a great job setting up a fun trip! The double-decker bus was full of MOC/MOCA Cooties from all over the state... and there were even a few Cooties from other states added into the mix! We visited Post 4089/Pup Tent 2 and had a good breakfast, Post 4411/Pup Tent 11 where everyone got "lei-ed" and had some great grub, Post 993 where they had a DJ for us and some of the best fried chicken ever, and then back to Post 3160/Pup Tent 1 for some more fun and hijinks! What happens on the Safari Bus stays on the Safari Bus... wink, wink, nudge, nudge, say no more!



With the very positive reception we had from the donations we made to hospital this month, Susan Adamczyk (MOCA President) and "Seamy B" have discussed the possibility of doing this in the future to replace our bimonthly (every other month) hospital visits until we can start up the visitations once again. We will be discussing this possibility with our respective crews at the next scratch.

As always, take care of yourself, your families, your friends, and your fellow veterans in this pandemic era. Even with relaxation of restrictions, stay diligent... COVID is still out there, and the Delta variant is rearing its ugly head all over the place! 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!

We Are Better Together!

Ben Guinan
MOC Seam Squirrel
guinanbt@gmail.com

Susan Adamczyk
MOCA President
rednomore@gmail.com

HOUSE COMMITTEE

Hello from the House Committee!

We have a good mix of entertainment lined up for September and hope that you will come out to support all the acts and DJs. We have two new bands coming as well.

[Modern Vintage](#) is a local area band that performs at various Wineries, and fairs. Modern Vintage plays pop, dance, modern modern country, rock n roll, classic songs and originals that move your heart, soul and feet! They enjoy “mashing” up great “modern” songs you love to hear today with “vintage” ones. Strong vocals with rich harmonies and strong musical instrumentation, Modern Vintage delivers a diverse set of music that cuts across audiences leaving them wanting more!!

[Bettina and the Blues Breakers](#) is a band out of Mineral, VA and is led by the Commander of the VFW Post in Mineral! They play classic rock and blues.

As for our DJs, we have a new one starting out this month on Friday, our very own Queen of Karaoke, [Caroloke](#) will be playing two nights and [DJ Michael](#) will fill out the remaining dates.

The House Committee is working hard to bring you the kind of entertainment that you want and deserve and that brings you out to share the camaraderie that being a member of the VFW affords. To this end, we have a short 5 question survey that we would like for you to answer to help us in planning future events. Please take time to click the link below and help us entertain you.

[House Committee Survey Link](#)





September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
			1	2	3	4	
			CLOSED				
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
CLOSED		BINGO 7:30	Wacky Wacky BBQ MOCA 7:00 pm MOC 7:30 pm	BINGO 7:30	Golf Tourney Caroloke FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-9:00	Patriot's Day 3 pm Modern Vintage Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
Breakfast 9-12:00		BINGO 7:30	Auxiliary 7:00 pm Post Meeting 7:00 pm	BINGO 7:30	POW MIA 5 pm Caroloke FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-9:00	DJ Michael Breakfast 9-12 AUX Breakfast Purple Heart Air Force Bday WINGS 6:00-8:00	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
Breakfast 9-12:00		BINGO 7:30	Wacky Wacky Seafood	BINGO 7:30	DJ Michael FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-9:00	Bettina and the Blues Breakers Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00	
26	27	28	29	30			
District 10 Sol Breakfast 9-12:00		BINGO 7:30		BINGO 7:30			

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Post 1503

14631 Minnieville Road

Woodbridge, Virginia 22193



Next Monthly Meeting

September 15TH

vfw1503.org

Wacky Wacky Wednesday's ...

September 8th ...
ALL AMERICAN BBQ Specials

September 22nd ...
SEAFOOD Specials

Plus ... Kim's Famous Margarita's

12 Noon until Supplies are Gone