



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Post 1503

AUG 22



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



Team,

Greetings and Salutations! Wow! What a hot summer we're having so far and temperatures have climbed into the 90's almost daily, yet we are bringing you the latest and greatest within the realm of Post 1503.

Let's recap a minute here — we had a fantastic turnout for the 4th of July Dale City Civic Association Independence Day parade and our own picnic celebration under the pavilion. We followed that up with our attendance at the 123rd VFW National Convention held in Kansas City, Mo., 16-21 July 2022.

On the 4th, Ms. Earnestine Jenkins, wife of the former Neabsco District Supervisor, John Jenkins, a longtime VFW member, advocate and supporter along with her staff pulled off the impossible once again, mustering over 170 different parade entrants including four from Post 1503. As a first time parade entrant I thoroughly enjoyed myself as we drove down Dale Blvd waving and relishing our moment with our fellow county residents. Following close behind was our fabulous Auxiliary truck driven by 8 time Post Commander John Dodge along with Auxiliary President, Kelli Levitt and other auxiliary members. Not to be outdone, was our Military Order of the Cootie float, with its mascot bug proudly displayed denoting its affiliation with keeping veterans in beds of white. Rounding out our four vehicle attendance, was past Post Commander Thomas Williams and family. Afterwards we were informed our Post Color Guard won second place in the Color Guard competition. Well done and well deserved! And thanks to all the volunteers that participated, as well. Without you none of this would be possible – you made this a wonderful morning for so many.

POST OFFICERS

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



Our Pavilion picnic, open to the public on the 4th kicked off at noon, after the parade. We estimated over 600 attendees enjoyed a festive picnic environment that included plenty of food and drink, an ice cream truck, cotton candy, popcorn and a petting zoo. The Rockettes Band gave us two hours of wonderful music as we enjoyed the almost perfect weather and comradery of family, meeting friends and making new ones.

Finishing up the month of July, we attended the opening of the 123rd Veterans of Foreign Wars National Convention (16-21 July 2022), located in Kansas City, Mo. Our first fully attended symposium in almost two years. Vendors were abound and eager to spread the word on their products and services available to our veterans and auxiliary. Meetings and networking amongst members were in full swing to get the latest information. I especially felt proud to witness our Past Commander, Tom Levitt and our Past District 10 Commander, Robert "Check" Adamczyk receive their coveted caps for gaining All-American status two years in a row. A feat not easily earned, but in part due to your outstanding participation in VFW programs as well as membership gains. YES ALL OF YOU made this possible for 2022! THANK YOU!!



### **IN MEMORIAM**

In closing, I would be remiss, if I didn't say a few words about a man who was a pioneer in many respects and trailblazer for those of us in the black community. I'm referring to Mr. Royce Anderson, a career serviceman and Naval Officer and one of a handful of Naval black aviators during a time when there were not a lot of opportunities for men of color. Raised and educated in the south, he attended Savannah State as an undergraduate, and earned Master's degree at the prestigious Morehouse College in Atlanta and Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, Michigan (near Ann Arbor). Royce enlisted for a short stint in the Air Force before transferring to the US Navy. Commissioned in 1971, he found his calling as a Naval Aviator. He passed away 19 July surrounded by family and friends. God speed! Royce Anderson and Fair Winds and Following Seas.

So far so good as your new post commander as I look to you to keep this post at the forefront. All the best

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/>

Lastly, don't forget my [CDRs Suggestion Box](#) on the web under the heading of Resources and then 1503 Feedback.

Our **Next Meeting** will be at **7:00 p.m.** on **17 August** at VFW Post 1503 in the meeting room.

**Bernie Carter**  
Post Commander  
[cdrpost1503@vfwva.org](mailto:cdrpost1503@vfwva.org)



## VFW AUXILIARY

Hello Auxiliary 1503! Holy smokin'-hot days of summer!! Hope you are able to keep cool and find fun ways to enjoy the season!

Welcome to our new members – Adrienne, Tashanti, Dick, Suzy and Delana. We look forward to seeing you soon!

July was a very busy month with events, near and far. Our Auxiliary members participated in the Dale City 4th of July Parade, volunteered at the annual Post 1503 4th of July BBQ, volunteered at Bingo, attended National Convention in Kansas City, MO, assisted Veterans and enjoyed breakfast together.

Betty, Laura and I had a great time at National Convention! If you have not had the opportunity to attend – make plans now! 2023 – Phoenix, Arizona! Many thanks to Senior Vice President Debbie, for taking over the podium, in my absence. I did hear (on Zoom) and from others that she did a fantastic job!

Our Auxiliary provided so many helping hands for the July 4th BBQ! In addition to setting up, cooking, serving and cleaning up, we had a recruiting table, popcorn & cotton candy machines and a children's activity table. Thank you to all our members who helped to make this a great day! The Dale City Parade was so much fun! We walked the route and handed out lots of candy! Many thanks to John Dodge for providing and driving the Auxiliary vehicle and allowing us to decorate every inch of it! We appreciate you!

## UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

## AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President . . . . . Kelli Levitt  
Sr. Vice President . . . . . Deborah Nichols  
Jr. Vice President . . . . . Monika Walczyk  
Secretary . . . . . Pamela Flores  
Treasurer . . . . . Karla Coker  
Chaplain . . . . . Michael Alicea  
Conductress . . . . . Jan Kiecker  
Guard . . . . . Gloria Wiley  
1st Yr Trustee . . . . . Janell Garland  
2nd Yr Trustee . . . . . Patricia Wootten  
3rd Yr Trustee . . . . . Gina Powers  
Historian . . . . . Mary Seiffert  
Patriotic Instructor . . . . . Rita Maldonado

**ANNUAL MEMBERS** – please check your membership card. If it shows an expiration date of 12/31/2022 – now is the time to RENEW!! \$20 until 10/31/2022 – after is \$25.

For all who renew between July 1 and October 31, you are eligible for a Life membership 'upgrade' drawing, in November.

Checks or cash may be given to the bartender in the Canteen.

Checks may be mailed to:

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

Hope you can join us for Auxiliary breakfast on August 20th. 9:30 am in the Canteen.

The Post 1503 Golf Tournament will be held on August 26th. Our Auxiliary participates by working the check in table and handing out 'goodie bags' to the players. If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please contact me for more details.

Congratulations to Pam, for earning the final \$100 in the **Volunteer Incentive Program**! Pam has won 3 of the 4 quarters – way to go, Pam and thank you for all you do!! The drawing for a Life Membership (or monetary equivalent) from participants who did not win throughout the year will be at our August meeting.



## Family Freedom Festival

The **VFW Auxiliary Family Festival** is an opportunity to spread the word about our programs and to show how we support Veterans, their families and our community. Having this in conjunction with the Family Fun Day will allow us to share our mission to a larger audience.

After breakfast on the 20th, we will start planning for the Freedom Festival part of this event.  
**As always, your help is appreciated and needed!!**

Do you have a login for Malta? If not, you definitely should!! It is THE go to place for all things Auxiliary – [www.vfwauxiliary.org](http://www.vfwauxiliary.org)

Are you receiving Department of Virginia Auxiliary Monthly Communications? If not, you may sign up at [www.vfwauxva.org](http://www.vfwauxva.org) Chaplain Alerts? Please email Chaplain Michael [auxiliarychaplain1503@gmail.com](mailto:auxiliarychaplain1503@gmail.com) to receive alerts.

### UPCOMING DATES/EVENTS

AUG 4th – Coast Guard Birthday

AUG 7th – National Purple Heart Day

AUG 17th – Auxiliary Meeting

AUG 20th – Auxiliary Breakfast

AUG 26th – Post 1503 Golf Tournament

SEP 3rd – Family Fun Day

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!

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!

Loyally, **Kelli Levitt**  
VFW Auxiliary 1503 President  
[itsmekelli@aol.com](mailto: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

## FAMILY FUN DAY

Saturday September 3<sup>RD</sup> \* 12-3

JOIN US IN THE PAVILION  
FOR A DAY OF FOOD, MUSIC & FUN



FREE EVENT - OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

petting zoo \* ice cream truck \* ident-a-kid \* games

cotton candy \* popcorn \* bounce house



## CHAPLAINS CORNER

### Choose to be Happy Everyday

We find them at work, in public places, and in the post canteen – those people with upbeat and eager faces! It seems as though they are genuinely excited over the smallest things and remain happy when unexpected challenges come their way. They “are” happy people and the best way to be a happy person is to actually be a happy person. *Happiness is a choice.*

### Happy People are Grateful People

We should focus on what we have rather than constantly checking what’s missing on our plate. Like they say, the grass is greener where you water it.

### Happy People do for Others

There are persons all around us in need. Focusing on the needs of others and helping them through their troubled times and hardships often results in our perceived hardships diminishing in importance, which in turn makes us happier.

### Happy People are Forgiving People

Happy people realize that inner peace is one of the greatest treasures in life. Forgiveness is the elixir of the soul. Forgive yourself. Forgive others. No one is perfect. We all make mistakes. We all fall down. We all fail. Forgive. Remember, happy people are strong people and it takes strength to forgive.

### Happy People are Strong People

Or is it people are strong because they’re happy? What’s the old saying, “What doesn’t kill us makes us stronger.” Happy people learn from adversity. None of us enjoys learning a lesson from personally experiencing difficult times... but it makes us stronger.

***PSALM 144:15 “Happy are the people whose God is the LORD.” God is the true source of happiness, strength, hope, and wisdom.***

Ed Bennett - Chaplain

## FACILITY HAPPENINGS

Well summer is officially here and boy is it hot. Records set last month and this month will be another record setter. Our A/C units are working fine, the drinks are cold and bartenders are looking forward to seeing you.

Have been asked by some when we are going to remove the shields around the bar that we had installed during the pandemic and has acted as added protection for our members, guest’s and bartenders. Will keep them up for the month of August and depending on the MONKEY virus now being a concern act accordingly at the end of the month.

Door access once again has some bugs that have to be addressed before we can go live. All the hardware is now in place, however we might need to rely on initially going to more FOB’S being passed out until the phone application that is not working properly is addressed. If we do the FOB, we will be working off our constant contact list and not the general membership rosters as initially planned. Initial FOB will be free. If it gets lost or needs to be replaced in the future then members will be charged for the new one.

Once the Commander and Board of Directors give the go ahead, we will activate the new system. The new system will take approximately 24 hours to recognize your FOB. Bartenders and M/A’s on duty will be your point of contact. Sorry for all the confusion but we are getting close to this being implemented.

Reminder every Friday and Saturday entertainment in the canteen from 8pm to 12pm. Wings every Saturday 6 pm to 9 pm.

John Meehan - Facility Manager

# MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

**Purple Heart** fact: Famous Purple Heart Recipients

President - President John F. Kennedy; Military - Douglas MacArthur, Richard Winters, Lewis Burwell "Chesty" Puller, Norman Schwarzkopf, Colin Powell, Chuck Yeager and Audie Murphy; Actors - James Arness, Charles Bronson, James Garner, Lee Marvin, Telly Savalas and Rod Serling; Writers - Kurt Vonnegut and Oliver Stone; Athletes - Warren Spahn, Pat Tillman, and Rocky Bleier and even Animals - Sgt Stubby the dog and Sgt Reckless the horse



The arrival of August means more than just the end of summer is quickly approaching. National Purple Heart Day is 7 August. We need to remember all those that were killed or wounded in service to our country in all our wars. Japan surrendered on 14 August 1945 to end World War Two. This allowed the world to start the rebuilding process and service members quickly started returning home to their loved ones.

The United States deployed combat troops to Vietnam in August 1964. To the Vietnam War veterans I want to say "Thank you for your service". As an Iraq War veteran, you were among the first visitors I had while a patient at Walter Reed. You were present at my Purple Heart Ceremony once I recovered enough to return home to Ft. Hood, TX. You welcomed me into the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Military Order of the Purple Heart and showed me how to help our fellow veterans and their families. You did not stop serving once you hung up the uniform. Now as each year passes, it falls to us younger veterans to step forward to insure that all our veteran brothers and sisters that follow in our footsteps are welcomed in into our organizations with the dignity and respect that all who answered the call to serve deserve. Are you willing?

***All Gave Some, Some Gave All!***

Yours in Patriotism, **Dom Dionne**  
Commander - Chapter 1775

## MOC / MOCA

Comrades and Auxiliary members,

We had a great float in the annual 4th of July parade. Lots of candy was passed out by the MOC and MOCA walking (okay, running) along the parade route since we're no longer allowed to throw candy. Thanks to all that helped out and made it happen!

Pup Tent 14 was well represented at the Supreme Scratch in Overland Park, Kansas last month. That's when Cooties from all over the world come together to vote on resolutions, bylaw changes, and to elect Supreme officers for the next year for the MOC and MOCA.

We've received a wish list from McGuire VA Hospital for the Polytrauma and SCI wards and will be purchasing and providing items to Keep'em Smiling in Beds of White.

Our **Next Scratch** will be on **10 August** at our regular times (1900 MOCA, 1930 MOC). Come on out and join us!

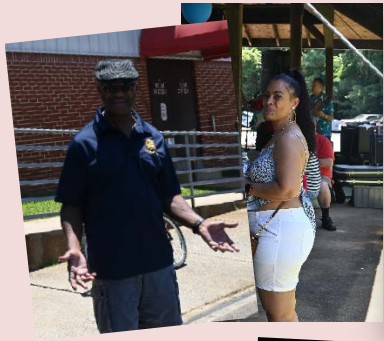
***Closer than a Brother, Busier than a Bee!***

**Robert "Check" Adamczyk**  
MOC Seam Squirrel  
mrcheck@gmail.com

**Laura Adamczyk**  
MOCA President  
lauraadamczyk2@gmail.com









# VFW August Entertainment

All DJs and Bands start at 8pm

Friday and Saturday nights

*Friday Night August 5th*

DJ Pynk Dyamond

Welcome our newest DJ!  
Dance Party!

*Saturday Night August 6th*

DJ T Play

Old School Dance Party  
and Karaoke!

*Friday Night August 12th*

DJ Steve Bolden

Videos and Dance Music

*Saturday Night August 13th*

Rusty Highway Band

Rock, Blues, Soul, Country  
Band

*Friday Night August 19th*

DJ Joe Clay

Joeyoke & Dance Music

*Saturday Night August 20th*

DJ Michael

Dance Music Only!

*Friday Night August 26th*

DJ Michael

Kamikaze Karaoke and  
Dance Party

*Saturday Night August 27th*

The Pam Pelano Band

Variety Music

# VFW POST 1503 INTERVIEW PROJECT

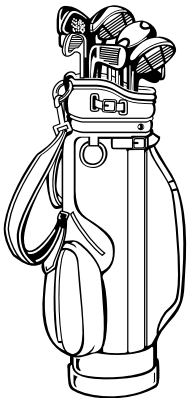


You are invited to follow along as VFW 1503 Auxiliary SVP Elizabeth continues her interview series. Her writings will grow into a collection of the rich histories and experiences of our beloved combat veterans. Please click [HERE](#) to read about her interview with **Mike**.

If you would like to share your story, you may reach Elizabeth at [mrs.elizabeth.marlowe@gmail.com](mailto:mrs.elizabeth.marlowe@gmail.com)

## **VFW Post 1503 Annual Golf Tournament**

It's time to prepare for our golf tournament to be held at Quantico Golf Course, Friday 26 August 2022. Lunch will be served at Post 1503 after the tournament. Contact Carl Richardson at 703-670-4124 ext 5 for more information.



### **Friday 26 August 2022**

Medal of Honor Golf Club  
Marine Corps Base • Quantico, Virginia

Check-In 7:00 a.m. • Shotgun Start 8:00 a.m.  
Entry Fee: \$60.00 per person (non-refundable)  
Includes: Green Fees, Cart, Prizes: 1st, 2nd, 3rd



Individual Prizes:

Closest to the Pin, Men's/Women's Longest Drive, Door Prizes

Name (Please Print Legibly)

Military Rank (Retired, Active Duty, Eligible Civilians)

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**ENTRY DEADLINE 18 AUGUST 2022**

**Return Entry Form, With Payment, To VFW Post 1503  
Donations Also Accepted**



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 BINGO 7:30	3	4 BINGO 7:30	5 DJ Pynk Dyiamond FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-9:00	6 DJ T Play Breakfast 9-12 <b>WINGS</b> 6:00-8:00
7 Breakfast 9-12:00	8	9 BINGO 7:30	10 <b>Wacky Wacky BBQ</b> MOCA 7:00 pm MOC 7:30 pm	11 BINGO 7:30	12 DJ Steve Bolden FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-9:00	13 <b>Rusty Highway Band</b> Breakfast 9-12 <b>WINGS</b> 6:00-8:00
14 Breakfast 9-12:00	15	16 BINGO 7:30	17 Auxiliary 7:00 pm Post Meeting 7:00 pm	18 BINGO 7:30	19 DJ Joe Clay FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-9:00	20 DJ Michael Breakfast 9-12 AUX Breakfast Purple Heart <b>WINGS</b>
21 Breakfast 9-12:00	22	23 BINGO 7:30	24 <b>Wacky Wacky Seafood</b>	25 BINGO 7:30	26 DJ Michael FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-9:00	27 <b>Pam Pelano Band</b> Breakfast 9-12 <b>WINGS</b> 6:00-8:00
28 Breakfast 9-12:00	29	30 BINGO 7:30	31			

# Veterans of Foreign Wars

## Post 1503

14631 Minnieville Road  
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193



Next Monthly Meeting

**August 17TH**

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

## **WACKY WACKY WEDNESDAY'S ...**

### August 10th ... Barbecue Specials

Memphis BBQ Ribs . . . . .	\$11.95
Texas Beef Brisket . . . . .	\$11.95
Carolina Pulled Pork . . . . .	\$11.95
Combo Platter . . . . .	\$14.95

*SIDES: Collard Greens, Corn Bread, Baked Beans*

### August 24th ... Seafood Extravaganza

Steamed Shrimp . . . . .	\$10.95
Lobster Ravioli . . . . .	\$10.95
Broiled Scallops with Rice . . . . .	\$11.95

**Plus ... Kim's Famous Margarita's**

12 Noon until Supplies are Gone