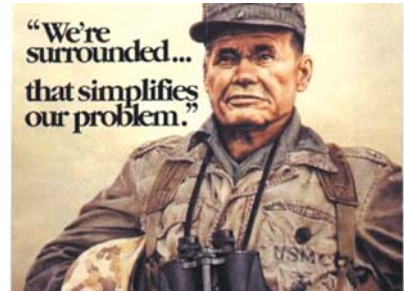




VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Post 1503

FEB 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

Comrades and Auxiliary Members,

The past month we celebrated the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his fight for civil rights. This month we celebrate Black History Month. It is important for us to remember that our military is very diverse and take time to recognize that diversity. If you want to know more about African American contributions in our military try visiting the African American Military History Museum in Hattiesburg, Mississippi or visit their website at <http://www.hattiesburguso.com/>. The museum is a former segregated USO that served the African American soldiers stationed at Camp Shelby during World War II.

We continue to remain hopeful that this pandemic will not be here forever. Last year with the vaccine becoming widely available we hoped to see an end. The reality seems to be that we will be in this fight a while longer. We are hopeful that our leaders and medical community are forthcoming with information and make good decisions based on that. Local pandemic numbers spiked in late December and early January but as of this writing are down just over 33% in our county over the last seven days according to CDC reporting. Please be smart and stay safe so we can continue this trend and keep our facility open.

January was busy as we began the month ringing in the New Year with a great party in the A Hall. As always the staff did a great job. Some of our Post Officers were able to attend the Mid-Year VFW of Virginia conference and see our own Post 1503 and District 10 entry for Voice of Democracy receive first place honors at the State level and move on to the National judging. The



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
- House Committee Chair . . . Lionel Ward
- Past Commander . . . Thomas Williams, Jr.





young lady, Anjali M. Ghafoerkhan was outstanding and her speech blew the audience away.

Despite having weather challenges and closures we were still able to have our first Membership Appreciation Night in two years. This event was another great night highlighting the efforts of our staff and membership. For those that attended it was a great time. Hopefully February will be different and the snow will not impact our facility. Come out and enjoy some comradery watching a game or bring out your sweetheart for Valentines dinner. We look forward to seeing you all around the 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 **16 February** 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

Greetings Auxiliary 1503 Brothers & Sisters!

Welcome to our new members, Christopher, Jay, Jacqueline, Allison, Peter and Brenda.

Our membership is currently 101.73% - 946 members! Huge thanks to all who continue to recruit for our great organization.

Several of us were able to attend the Department of Virginia Winter Council in Portsmouth, January 7th & 8th. Department Commander Butch and President Carol held their Homecoming on Friday evening. Saturday night was the Awards Banquet for the Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year contests. Congratulations to all the winners and to Post 1503, who sponsored Anjali, the 1st place VoD winner! Our next Department event will be in June – all are welcome and encouraged to attend!

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President Kelli Levitt
 Sr. Vice President . . . Elizabeth Marlowe
 Jr. Vice President Deborah Nichols
 Secretary Pam Salyers
 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



Auxiliary breakfast on the 15th was well attended. As usual, good food and conversation! Hope you will join us this month. It is a great opportunity to get to know one another and spend time together, apart from our business meetings.

Our annual 'Winter Coats for Kids' to three local Title 1 schools that we are able to support was a bit delayed this year – but well underway. With the help of a monetary contribution from our Comrades, we were able to help a lot of students.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS: Some members are experiencing extremely long wait times for their card to arrive. We email a 'welcome letter' to new members after voting at each monthly meeting. This letter will allow you to access the Canteen until your card arrives. You may also contact me to get your member number that you can use to print a temporary card from the Auxiliary website.

Do you know about our Volunteer Incentive Program?

Each quarter, one member will earn \$100!

Congratulations to our second quarter winner, Pam Salyers! Every member is eligible to participate, get your events logged and don't be left behind!! Information, rules and forms can be found at this link [Auxiliary Incentive Program](#) Next winner (January 1st - March 31st) will be announced at the April 20th meeting. SVP Elizabeth asks that you PLEASE have all submissions logged in by COB April 18th.



Along with the Volunteer Incentive Program, we also offer each member the chance to earn \$100 with our Recruiter Challenge – you can learn all about it at our monthly meetings!!

I hope each of you are reading the 'Interviews' that Elizabeth does each month with a Veteran. They are fantastic and heartwarming, while providing a glimpse of their time in service. If your Veteran would like to participate, please encourage them to reach out and share their story with Elizabeth.

We are still collecting Annual Dues!! \$25 cash or check – please include your name and member number and ask it to be placed in the Auxiliary box, behind the bar.

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!



UPCOMING DATES/EVENTS

Feb 14th – Valentine's Day
Feb 16th – Auxiliary Meeting – 7:00
Feb 19th – Auxiliary Breakfast – 9:30

Kelli Levitt

VFW Auxiliary 1503 President
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 Jim.

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

FACILITY HAPPENINGS

Well January certainly was a real pain wasn't it. Snow, ice and rain made for a lot of uncertainty about opening, staffing, bingo playing, members and staff safety issues. Hope this month behaves itself.

New door access system to the canteen should be installed this month. If you are new to the post or have not signed up for our **Constant Contact** list, please be sure to fill out the information sheet in the canteen (located just to the right of the main entrance door) on the table with the sign in book. We need to give a spread sheet with all members e-mail address's so they can be downloaded by the install vendor which will allow you to scan your cell phone to gain entrance to the club. The door cards will no longer work. You can also e-mail me at vfw1503facmgt@comcast.net with your information.

VALENTINE DINNER/DANCE IN CANTEEN – Feb 11th – Special Menu – Dinner starts at 5 – DJ Michael will be playing at 8.

SUPER BOWL SUNDAY – Feb 13th – I know my teams not playing, hopefully yours is. As in the past, kick off is scheduled for 6:30 pm. Post will have Free Food for members and guests starting at 5 p.m. It will be available until the start of the game.

Please see last page of this newsletter for monthly events.



John Meehan
Facility Manager

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

Patriots:

We had our meeting with very few attending but approved the standing motions for 2022. We look forward to this new year with being able to conduct a Viola Drive on April 26th and start back our scholarship and leadership awards.

At our next meetings in February, we will discuss the Chapter activities for the upcoming year. We need to get ideas from Chapter Patriots on how we can support combat wounded veterans and their families for this year.

The next Chapter Meeting is on Saturday, February 19th. 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



Greetings from the MOC/MOCA! The January scratch was a bit scant in turnout... hope to see more Cooties crawl out of the seams next month! While attendance was a bit low, we had a great time nonetheless... and are planning some fun and useful events in the upcoming year!

We received the newest wish-list from McGuire VA Hospital and are diligently working on getting our next shipment ready. This one will entail a bunch of musical equipment and other fun, therapeutic kinds of games and such. The hospital and our fellow veterans down there, as always, were thrilled and very grateful for our last shipment! They are putting everything we delivered to good use and are enjoying our support. They particularly loved the cards and bracelets and things from the kids at Minnieville Elementary School! We will let everyone know if there are any opportunities to donate things for the veterans at the hospital! Perhaps a drive of some kind may be coming up in the future for just that kind of purpose...



The Cooties were out in full force helping comrades and disabled vets all over the place in January! Doing wellness checks, delivering food and other goodies, and digging people out from the major snow event! Checkout the pics! If anyone needs any kind of help with things, please reach out to the post and get a message to the Cooties... or just shoot me and/or Susan an email (they are listed below)! We are always willing to help with whatever we can!

We are definitely looking to increase and multiply! If you have the volunteering spirit and drive, you are an ideal candidate for Cootieship! If you are interested in learning about the MOC and/or MOCA, reach out to a Cootie! We are a bunch of crazy, fun-loving, and dedicated veterans that are always looking for other likeminded people to help further our mission to "Keep them smiling in beds of white"!

As always, take care of yourself, your families, your friends, and your fellow veterans in this pandemic era. Stay diligent... COVID is still out there! Omicron and other variants are rearing their ugly heads 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!

Ben Guinan
MOC Seam Squirrel
guinanbt@gmail.com

Susan Adamczyk
MOCA President
rednomore@gmail.com



VFW February Entertainment

All DJs and Bands start at 8pm Friday and Saturday nights

Friday Night

Saturday Night

February 4th

DJ Joe Clay
Joeyoke and Dance

February 5th

Rockhits!
Classic Rock Band

February 11th

DJ Michael
Kamikaze Karaoke &
Dance Music

February 12th

The Pam Palano Band
Variety Band

February 18th

Caroloke!
Karaoke &
Dance Music

February 19th

DJ Check
Karaoke &
Dance Music/Video

February 25th

Caroloke!
Karaoke &
Dance Music

February 26th

DJ Michael
Kamikaze Karaoke &
Dance Music



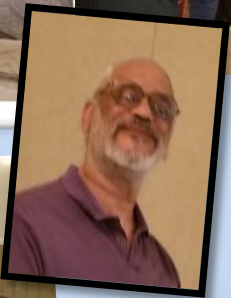
BLACK HISTORY month

Special Menu

Thursday, February 17th

BBQ Ribs or Fried Chicken, with Sides \$11.95
Brussel Sprouts, Mashed Potatoes, Cornbread







February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 BINGO 7:30	2 	3 BINGO 7:30	4 DJ Joe Clay FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-9:00	5 Rockhits Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
6 Breakfast 9-12:00	7	8 BINGO 7:30	9 Wacky Wacky Pot Luck MOCA 7:00 pm MOC 7:30 pm	10 BINGO 7:30	11 DJ Michael FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-9:00	12 Pam Palano Band Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
13 Breakfast 9-12:00	14 	15 BINGO 7:30	16 Auxiliary 7:00 pm Post Meeting 7:00 pm	17 BINGO 7:30 BLACK HISTORY month Special Menu	18 Caroloke FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-9:00	19 DJ Check Breakfast 9-12 AUX Breakfast Purple Heart WINGS 6:00-8:00
20 Breakfast 9-12:00	21 	22 BINGO 7:30	23 Wacky Wacky Seafood	24 BINGO 7:30	25 Caroloke FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-9:00	26 DJ Michael Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
27 Breakfast 9-12:00	28					

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Post 1503

14631 Minnieville Road
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193



Next Monthly Meeting

February 16TH

vfw1503.org

Wacky Wacky Wednesday's ...

February 9th ... Pot Luck Specials

Smothered Pork Chops \$9.95

Fried Catfish \$10.95

Lemon Pepper Honey Chicken Wings \$10.95

Garlic Butter Shrimp and Grits \$10.95

Sides, Cornbread, Collard Greens, Black Eyed Peas, Mac and Cheese

February 23rd ... Seafood Specials

Steamed Shrimp \$9.95

Fish (Cod) N Chips \$9.95

Broiled Scallops. \$10.95

Plus ... Kim's Famous Margarita's

12 Noon until Supplies are Gone