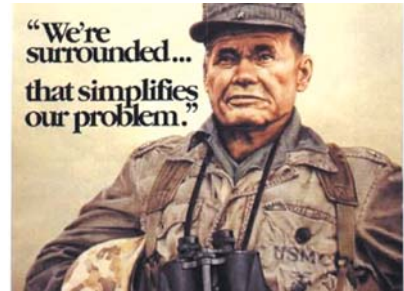




VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

OCT 22



General Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller

Post 1503

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, September was an extremely busy month and I expect October to be no different. Thank you for your patience and tolerance during the trials and tribulations of our new door entry system. I am requesting that you continue to let our facility team (MA and Bartenders) know if your FOB is not working. We want a 100 percent availability on entering your VFW! Door cards are no longer of use as of 1 Oct 2022.

The Fall is finally here and it won't be long before we enjoy the brilliance of an autumn palette. But before we get to that let's reflect on the team's accomplishments during September.

Our Labor Day weekend & Fun Day included a cornucopia of activities and attractions that served well over 250 people from our membership and that of our community. A fun time had by all.

We followed that up with our annual participation with Mr. Handyman of Northern Virginia, providing food, drink and conversation to an abundance of skilled laborers that performed much needed home and yard repairs for a needy family. This was our thirteenth year of affiliation with Mr. Handyman and we appreciate their efforts and the efforts of our members who assisted.

We held a patriotic Flag Retirement Ceremony and retired over 1,350 flags with well over 20 members in attendance. On a more somber note, we observed a poignant and moving Patriot Day and National Day of Remembrance ceremony to commemorate the fallen on 9/11. And let us not forget, Post 1503's own Jamie Fallon who passed at the Pentagon on that fateful day. The POW/MIA ceremony went off without a hitch. Thanks to the honor guard and especially Past Commander, Randy Coker who performed in my absence. Well done Marine! And thank you to Past Commander, Tom Levitt and current National Legislative Committee member, who also stood in my absence to commemorate the Air Force 75th Anniversary along with our guest speaker, current Vice Chief of Space Operations, 4-star General David D. Thompson.

Our Quartermaster, Mr. Carl Richardson planned, led and navigated a highly successful VFW Golf tournament that was originally planned for Quantico golf course in August but due to unforeseen



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



circumstances had to be moved to September. Due to Carl's swift action, intestinal fortitude and leadership we were able to garner another golf course to continue the tournament as originally planned. Well done Marine – and I think the cooler temperatures of September will be the new golf tournament month.

Lastly, to round out September we culminated the month with our 10th District School of Instruction and joint meeting at VFW Post 9274 located in Falls Church, Va. A well-orchestrated learning event led by our own Senior Vice, 10th District Commander and Grand MOC for Va, Ben Guinan.

For October we will celebrate our Bingo Social with an appreciation dinner for all our hardworking bingo volunteers, who in the past year have given their time and effort to continually support a major operating fund-raising campaign for our VFW. Our Navy birthday will be observed with a cake cutting ceremony on Thursday, the 13th of October at 1800 in the canteen. Please, if you can drop by for a few minutes, it will be greatly appreciated. Still to come are the MOC/MOCA Cornhole tournament (Pavilion) 22 Oct, and the Auxiliary Children's and Adult Halloween parties on the 29th of October.

Until next month, stay safe, continue to recruit and be kind to others. First impressions are everything! 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 October** at VFW Post 1503 in the meeting room



Bernie Carter
Post Commander
cdrpost1503@vfwva.org





VFW AUXILIARY

Hello Auxiliary 1503!

Welcome to our seven new members - John, Phyllis, Valious, Monica, Carolyn and Paige. Thanks to all 32 members who attended our September meeting! Though it was a bit long, we had a great meeting, with a lot of discussion and planning. If you are not attending – you should be!

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



ZOOM MEETING OPTION

NO longer available.

MEETING MINUTES

E-mailed via Constant Contact to each member with a valid e-mail address on file.

VOLUNTEER INCENTIVE PROGRAM

NO motion from the members in attendance to continue the program.

Great group of 10 and {a soon to be member!} at Auxiliary Breakfast on the 17th. My apologies for the date confusion in the last newsletter! Typically, our breakfast is held the third Saturday of each month.



Our meeting this month, on the nineteenth, will include final preparations for our Halloween Trunk-or-Treat! If you are interested in helping – please plan to arrive at the pavilion on the 29th at noon. Point of Contact is Jan Kiecker - pjkiecker@gmail.com

Do you have a login for Malta? What is Malta? It is access to resources, your information and more for the Auxiliary. www.vfwauxiliary.org You can pay your dues, request a replacement membership card and update your contact information.

Are you receiving Department of Virginia Auxiliary Monthly Communications? If not, you may sign up at www.vfwauxva.org

Are you receiving Chaplain Alerts? If not, please email Chaplain Michael at auxiliarychaplain1503@gmail.com

September was full of events and opportunities for our Auxiliary to support our Veterans and our community.



The month began with the combined Family Fun Day and Family Freedom Festival. We had so many Auxiliary volunteers, from set up, cooking, serving, decorating and clean up that helped make both events a huge success! We highlighted each of our programs, had a kids table, signed up a new member and had a gift basket give away. The winner, Sarah, from Lake Ridge was already home when we did the drawing, however, the gift basket was delivered! On the 9th, Debbie and I served lunch to the crew of Mr. Handyman, who on their National Day of Service provided home repairs and improvements for a Post 1503 family. At the Auxiliary C.A.F.E. event at the Flight 93 Memorial on September 10th, I, along with Department Jr. Vice President Dawn had the pleasure of escorting our Department President Fred, during the 'Parade of Flags'. It was a memorable ceremony and a somber day of remembrance for the lives lost twenty-one years ago. The 11th began with a Post 1503 Flag retirement ceremony – Jimmy, Rachel, Mary, Alan, Jonathon and I helped the Comrades retire 1,350 flags! Later that day we attended the Post 1503 Patriot's Day Remembrance Ceremony. On the 16th, Debbie, Jan, Rachel, Monika and I were at the golf club to sign in, welcome and gift each player a 'snack bag' to enjoy during the Post 1503 Golf Tournament. Also on the 16th, we joined the Comrades for the Post 1503 POW/MIA Ceremony. On the 18th, we sang Happy Birthday to the U.S. Air Force and ate cake! Finishing out the eventful and busy month, Karla, Monika, Betty, Debbie, Ellen and I made our way to Falls Church for the 10th District School of Instruction and Meeting on the 25th.

Auxiliary 1503 will continue to place VFW Store orders, for our members at the end of each quarter. Link and details available here: [VFW STORE ORDER INFORMATION](#)

This month we will deliver 'wish list' items to three Elementary schools in our community – sing Happy Birthday, this time to the U.S. Navy, attend VFW/Auxiliary Southern Conference and hand out lots of treats to lots of kids!

Thank you to our newest Program Chairman – Rita, Betty, Gina, Rachel and Karla! Several still needed! Please let me know if you are interested!

[VFW ACTION CORP WEEKLY](#) – thank you to all who have signed up so far! Below is a link for new ways to sign up – please do so and make your voice heard for our Veterans!! [ACTION CORP WEEKLY](#) Once you have signed up, be sure to open the weekly e-mails and take action, if requested.

[IWALK for ACTS 5K](#) - if you are interested in volunteering at this event, as part of our Community Service Program, please contact Karla Coker at kjcoker1503@gmail.com The walk is Saturday, OCT 8th and below are the list of needs: (please note – this info is for volunteers ñ not participants)

Link to volunteer is: [IWALK Volunteer Sign Up Form](#)

- [Run/Walk Set Up 4:30-7:30 am](#) – This involves walking the course in advance of the race to set out cones and signage.
- [Run/Walk Marshals 7:00-9:00 am](#) – This involves staffing the course to direct participants, staffing the breakfast & water stations and helping the run/walk timer with finisher identification.
- [Run/Walk Tear Down 9:00-11:30 am](#) – This involves helping retrieve the cones and signs from the course.

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 may be mailed to:

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

Checks or Cash **(in an envelope with your membership number)**

may be given to the bartender.

For questions, please contact Karla at kjcoker1503@gmail.com

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 • 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**





CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

The Chemistry of Friendship

You've probably noticed how you feel better after hanging out with good friends, but did you know when we enjoy face-to-face time with friends our brains release chemicals called oxytocin and dopamine? These chemicals help us feel calmer and happier.

There are so many benefits to developing close friendships. Not only are they good for us emotionally, they also support us in practical ways. Friends can help us with both big and little struggles and help us get through this thing called life. Good friends know you really well, and still like you.

A close friend of mine once told me a joke, "A good friend will bail you out of jail... a true friend will be sitting beside you saying, "Wasn't that fun!?" Well, I pray you and a friend never find yourselves in that scenario, but the moral of the story is a true friend will always come to your side in difficult times.

Thomas Aquinas, the great scholastic philosopher, said a long time ago, "There is nothing on earth to be prized than true friendship." Whatever hardships the world has in store, true friends stick together and get through them together. I hope you've had an experience like that.

I am blessed to have a group of friends in my life who hang out and fellowship together; and likewise, will rally together to aid one another in times of need, big and small, pray for each other, and will listen to each other's troubles and concerns. Just as important, they listen and share what they think and feel. They share their perspective, and this is good, a sign of a true friendship.

Your VFW family is a great source of friendship, fellowship, and practical support. Each of us has an instant deep-rooted connection to every person we meet at our post... the bond of military service and sacrifice to our great nation. Next time you're in the post and you see someone you don't know, take a moment to introduce yourself. Remember, "A friend may be waiting behind a stranger's face."

When you're struggling with a challenge and in need of help, remember you have a VFW family. Sometimes it takes a good deal of courage to ask for help. Some live by the principle it is better to give than to receive. The only problem with the principle is that no one can give assistance if no one asks for help. We all experience times of need. When you find yourself in need, reach out to see if the post is able to provide assistance or direct you to available resources; and, be prepared to provide assistance to others when a call for help is received.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

"Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do. Suppose someone falls down. Then his friend can help him up. But suppose the man who falls down doesn't have anyone to help him up. Then feel sorry for him."

Or better yet... be their friend and help them up.

Ed Bennett
Chaplain



FACILITY HAPPENINGS

Happy fall to all. Good and bad about summer going and fall coming but all in all the four seasons are something we have grown accustomed to around here the word is **CHANGE...**

Biggest change, is that all door cards are a thing of the past, and **you will need a FOB to enter the canteen during our MEMBER ONLY hours.** Over 550 FOB's have been issued. If you have not got yours please see the Bartender or M/A on duty during your next visit to the post and have your membership ID card (not your old door card) with you to help expedite the process. You can also e-mail me at vfw1503facmgt@comcast.net

FOOTBALL SUNDAY: Reminder everyone, we do have a policy in place to help organize the selection of games and which TV's are available to watch a specific game you might want on:

1. BIG TV in canteen is for the COMMANDER games and the WALL TV in the dance floor area is for STEELER'S games. These two teams over the years usually have the biggest crowd each week it helps with not having the same game on multiple sets.
2. All other games must be requested before 12:30 and will be assigned by the Bartender or MA on duty that day. No remotes will be passed out to members and do not use your cell phones to change channels.
3. No CARD PLAYING in the big mirror room during the season if the TV in that room is needed to accommodate members requests for a game. You will be asked to please move to the fireplace room.

THANKS IN ADVANCE TO ALL FOR YOUR COOPERATION

- **SATURDAY OCT 29TH ADULT HALLOWEEN PARTY IN THE CANTEEN SPECIAL MENU STARTING AT 5 PM. BAND STARTS AT 8 PM WITH COSTUME JUDGING AT 9 PM.**

John Meehan
Facility Manager



UPCOMING EVENTS & DATES

- 1 Oct – Bingo Appreciation Social (A Hall) 1745 kickoff
- 8 Oct – Crab Fest (Pavilion) 1200 kickoff
- 10 Oct – Columbus Day
- 13 Oct – 247th Navy Birthday Commemoration (1800 in the canteen)
- 14-15 Oct – Boy Scouts Mulch Setup/Delivery 1,000 bags: Post 1503 back parking lot
- 22 Oct – MOC/MOCA Cornhole Tournament (Pavilion) 1100 sign up, 1200 kickoff
- 29 Oct – Auxiliary Children's Halloween Party; Trunk or Treat 1300-1500; Post 1503 back parking lot
- 29 Oct – Adult Halloween Party/Costume Contest (Canteen) 1900 kickoff

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

The war in Afghanistan began on October 7, 2001, when the Taliban failed to hand over the terrorist responsible for the 9-11 attacks as demanded by President George Bush, the United States led a coalition of military forces in Operation Enduring Freedom to topple the Taliban and led to the establishment of the internationally recognized Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. The 20 year war ended in 2021 when the US withdrew its forces and the government of Afghanistan collapsed due to the successful Taliban offensive against government forces. This is the longest war in the military history of the United States. The way the war ended is not a reflection on the those that served in the war. They honored their commitments and kept us safe at home. Reach out to our OEF battle buddies and let them know you are there if they need anything. Remember not all wounds are visible, you never know when someone is having a bad day and you just may be in the right place at the right time to prevent another casualty to be chalked up to this war.

October 26th is National Day of the Deployed. Please take a moment this month to honor all our veterans that served overseas. Reach out to the VFW, USO or other organizations that support our service members and units overseas to see what kind of assistance they may need. We will continue to honor all our service members deployed away from home defending our country until they all return home.

All Gave Some, Some Gave All!



Yours in Patriotism,
Dom Dionne
Commander • Chapter 1775

Halloween

MOC / MOCA

Comrades and Auxiliary members,

We had a fairly uneventful scratch this month. No new business! Our auxiliary welcomed a new member to its ranks who received her own crummy shirt at their meeting. Hospitals are still closed to visitation, so we will continue to do our best to Keep'em Smiling in Beds of White.

This coming month we will hold our annual cornhole tournament on October 22nd. Every year we hold this tournament to raise funds for the crummy things we do year-round. Let's hope for a successful and fun cornhole tournament for all this year.

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

Laura Adamczyk
MOCA President
lauraadamczyk2@gmail.com





50/50 raffle Prizes for winners

October 22nd, 2022

\$20/PP

Includes

Food & Drinks

\$10 PP - Food & Drink only

Fundraiser

**Sponsored by the Military
Order of the Cootie and its**

Auxiliary Puptent 14

Da-Lec-Ity.

**Teams will be assigned by
random draw once all players are
signed in and paid**

**Bags will be provided and must
stay at each board, NO carrying
of bags from board to board**

Sign In @ 11 am

Games @ Noon

VFW Post 1503

Pavilion

14631 Minnieville Rd

Dale City

Laura Adamczyk

703-763-6259 Lauraadamczyk2@gmail.com



VFW October Entertainment

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

Friday Nights

Saturday Nights

October 1st

DJ Pynk Dyamond
Dance Party

October 7th

DJ Joe Clay
Karaoke DJ

October 8th

DJ Steve Boldin
Video Dance Party!

October 14th

DJ Michael
Dance Party with Karaoke!

October 15th

Mars Rodeo Band
Classic and Modern Rock

October 21st

DJ Pynk Dyamond
Dance Party

October 22nd

DJ T Play
Karaoke and Dance Party!

October 28th

DJ Joe Clay
Karaoke DJ

October 29th

Pam Palono Band
Halloween Costume Party



HALLOWEEN DRIVE/WALK THRU TRUNK-or-TREAT

SATURDAY OCTOBER 29TH 1-3

VFW POST 1503 - (back parking lot)

OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN,
MUST BE ACCOMPANIED
BY A PARENT or ADULT



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS 247 *Years*

Marine Corps
247th Birthday
Celebration



CHESTY PULLER VFW POST 1503

Date: Saturday, November 12th, 2022 @ 1800

Price: Free to Post members & guests
(Donations accepted at the door)

Dress: Appropriate business casual or Full Military Dress

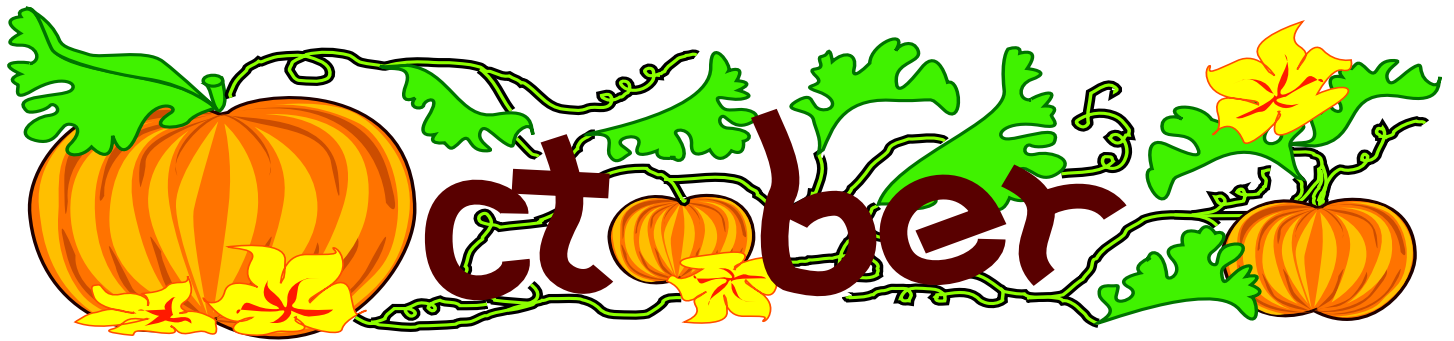
Guest of Honor SgtMaj Michael T Mack USMC Ret.

Sign up in canteen, starting October 15th

POC's – Randy Coker or Kevin Simpson

rwcoker1@gmail.com,

kevinwsimpson@msn.com



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 DJ Pynk Dyamond BINGO Appreciation Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
2 Breakfast 9-12:00	3	4 BINGO 7:30	5	6 BINGO 7:30	7 DJ Joe Clay FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-9:00	8 DJ Steve Boldin CRAB Fest Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
9 Breakfast 9-12:00	10 Columbus Day	11 BINGO 7:30	12 Wacky Wacky Bowls MOCA 7:00 pm MOC 7:30 pm	13 247th NAVY Birthday BINGO 7:30	14 DJ Michael FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-9:00	15 Mars Rodeo Band Breakfast 9-12 AUX Breakfast WINGS 6:00-8:00
16 Breakfast 9-12:00	17	18 BINGO 7:30	19 Auxiliary 7:00 pm Post Meeting 7:00 pm	20 BINGO 7:30	21 DJ Pynk Dyamond FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-9:00	22 DJ T Play Cornhole Tournament Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
23 Breakfast 9-12:00	24	25 BINGO 7:30	26 Wacky Wacky Seafood	27 BINGO 7:30	28 DJ Joe Clay FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-9:00	29 Parties Halloween Kids 1300 Adult 1900 Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
30 Breakfast 9-12:00	31 Halloween					

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Post 1503

14631 Minnieville Road
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193



Next Monthly Meeting

October 19TH

vfw1503.org

WACKY WACKY WEDNESDAY'S ...

October 12th ... Wacky Bowls

Chicken & Shrimp Rice Bowl	\$11.95
Grilled Steak Bowl	\$11.95
Ahi Tuna Bowl	\$12.95

October 26th ... Seafood Extravaganza

Steamed Shrimp	\$10.95
Broiled Scallops with Rice	\$11.95
Fried Whiting.	\$11.95

Plus ... Kim's Famous Margarita's

12 Noon until Supplies are Gone