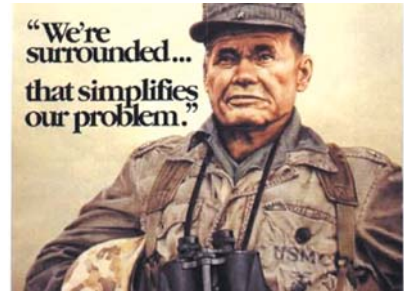




VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Post 1503

FEB 23



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, January is in the rearview and February is here, but I'd have to admit it hasn't been the coldest winter thus far. Oh yes, we've had the occasional hints of impending cold but nothing like in the past. That's not to say winter isn't done with us but pretty soon hints of warmth will soon envelop the area.

Ok, let's reflect for a moment on what's been happening in Post 1503. December had a loaded slate of events as is expected when culminating a year. January was a month of reprieve but I and a few of our leaders had the opportunity to attend our State VFW Winter Council. A way of planning out the rest of the calendar year before we meet in June for our annual State Convention. Additionally, a banquet was held for youth programs and teacher of the year awards, as well as training sessions for officers and members.

I hoped you enjoyed the Martin Luther King menu for those of you who tried it out. We are always looking for future recipes next time around.

We ended January with Troop 1919 of the Scouts sponsoring their annual Pinewood Derby in the A & B Hall. A time-honored tradition since 1953, a sort of miniature soap box derby where a block of wood and nails go into the development of something special between a scout and his parents. A wonderful time and lasting memories were had by all.

The Christmas Tree Committee held a nice get-together to honor all the hard work, planning, and volunteer hours that went into the annual selling of trees as a small way of saying thank you. Hope to see you all again next year.

For February be on the lookout for a couple of appreciation meals honoring Black History month on the 1st and 23rd of February. A Valentine's Dinner on the 10th followed by a bake sale sponsored by the MOC/MOCA on the 14th.

Until next month, I want to wish everyone a Happy Black History Month. This month unveils a rich history of the achievements and culture of black Americans, not only in the armed forces but society as well. And as always remember those family members and co-workers that mean the most to you.



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

Stay safe, continue to recruit, and be kind to others. And remember, first impressions are lasting and mean everything. To stay informed, watch for emails via Constant Contact and check out what is happening on our post website, and Facebook page to stay updated. And review all the latest happenings and pictures from VFW 1503 events.

Bernie Carter
Post Commander
cdrpost1503@vfwva.org



FEBRUARY EVENTS

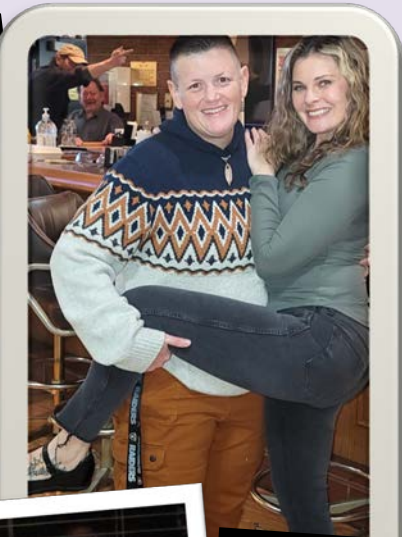
BLACK HISTORY MONTH

- 10 Feb Valentine's Dinner
- 14 Feb Valentine's Day
- 20 Feb Presidents Day
- 4 Mar VOD/PP/TOY Awards Ceremony – VFW Centennial Event

BLACK HISTORY month

SPECIAL MENU February 1st & 23rd ...

Smothered Pork Chops w/Onion Gravy	\$12.95
Fried Whiting	\$11.95
Fried Green Tomato BLT	\$10.95
Sides: Mustard Greens, Black Eyed Peas, Sweet Potato Casserole	



VFW AUXILIARY

February greetings Auxiliary 1503! Hard to believe that we are this far into winter with little to no snow!!

Our January meeting had 27 members present! So happy to see each of you making an effort to support our organization! While meeting attendance is not mandatory, it is essential and you are encouraged to attend – the work we do as a team is important, and without the help of many, it can be challenging to accomplish our mission!

Welcome to our newest two Annual and three Life Members – Raymond, Rudolf, Victor, Joshua and Janice. We welcome you to our Auxiliary and hope to see you soon.

The Department of Virginia VFW & Auxiliary held their Winter Conference January 5-8. Several of us were there to celebrate the Department Commander and President's Homecoming, attend the Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen and Teacher of the Year Awards Banquet, we helped in the District 10 Hospitality Room, we attended Council meetings and had a quick Auxiliary training.

Our membership continues to grow! We are currently at 1,015 members!! Thanks to everyone for continuing to recruit!

Do not forget about our **Recruiting Challenge** – if you recruit ten new or re-join members from July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023, you will earn \$100.

A quick reminder about Annual Membership Dues – if your membership expired December 31, 2022 – you are no longer a member in good standing and you are not permitted to attend meetings. If your dues (\$25) are not paid by June 30, 2023, you will have to re-join and prove eligibility again.

[A FEW THINGS OUR MEMBERS VOTED FOR IN JANUARY](#)

A \$500 donation to NOVAVETS.ORG – funding for their transportation assistance provided to Veterans.

A \$500 donation to FISHERHOUSE.ORG – to their Ft. Belvoir House, we will donate cleaning supplies, snacks, gift cards, knife sets and food items.

A \$100 donation to VFWNATIONALHOME.ORG – to the Virginia House, generator fund.

January 21st was our Auxiliary Breakfast, with seven attending. We always have a great time, away from the meeting room visiting, eating, sharing ideas and getting to know one another. Hope you will join us this month on the 18th at 9:30.

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

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

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.

Auxiliary 1503 will continue to place **VFW Store orders**, for our members at the end of each quarter. Orders due by the March 15 meeting.

Pictures of available items are here: [Store Items](#)

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

Order form is here: [Store Order Form](#)

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!

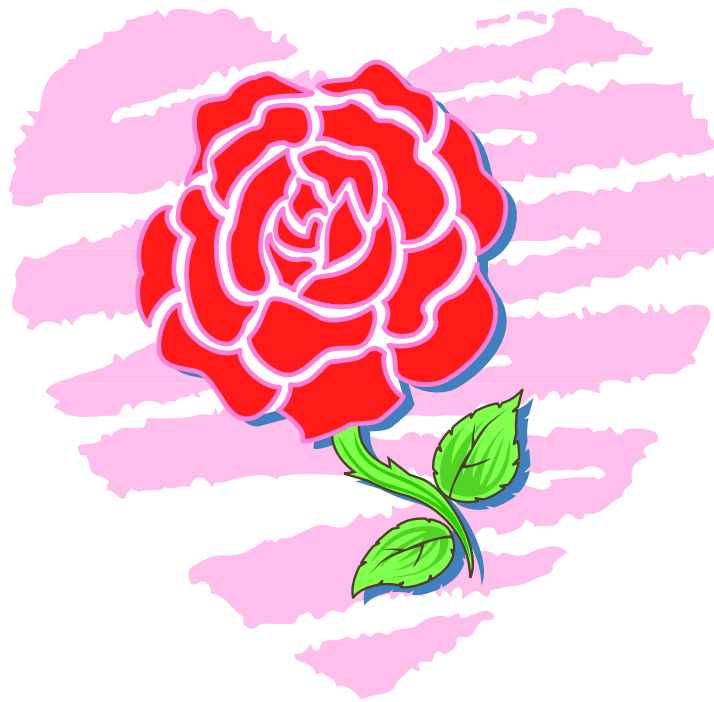
As always, if you have questions, concerns, comments or you are in need of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me, or any of our officers – we are here to help. I look forward to seeing you at our monthly meeting, if not sooner!

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*

Please like and follow our Facebook page!! **VFW Post 1503 - Auxiliary**



VFW POST 1503 INTERVIEW PROJECT



You are invited to follow along as VFW Auxiliary 1503 member 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 her interview with **JOHN**

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

A Spirit of Humility

The world is hostile to humility; it sees the humble person as a doormat – someone who stands by quietly while others step all over them. The world would rather have us think more of ourselves. When we are humble, we are not focusing on ourselves and our accomplishments; rather, we set aside our pride and trade it for appreciation and gratitude.

Truly humble people don't take offense easily or fight back; they turn the other cheek. And yet their humility is not cowardice, for true humility requires courage. It makes you willing to take a lower place than you deserve, to stay modest about your merits, and to endure slights, insults, and false accusations for the sake of a higher purpose.

True humility doesn't make you think less of yourself, it just makes you think of yourself less. St. Peter taught us: "God opposes the proud, but he favors the humble. So humble yourselves under the mighty power of God, and at the right time he will lift you up."

Here are a few practical examples of how to be a humble person in your daily life:

- Showing thanks to God and others.
- Keeping an open mind to listening to others.
- Appreciating the little blessings.
- Accepting fault when we are wrong.
- Giving credit to others when due.
- Trusting in God's plan when it might not make sense.
- Showing love and patience to others.
- Refraining from showing pride and arrogance.

Two challenges for the upcoming month to develop a humble spirit:

- *Spend a whole day not correcting anyone.*

I have a colleague who routinely uses the word "caveat" incorrectly. I almost always correct him. I had a supervisor who was incapable of not changing or revising anything you submitted for his approval, even if it was just a matter of personal style. What's the point? After a day of applying this idea, I hadn't thought twice about any of the things I wanted to correct. Being right is sometimes overrated. P.S. I still have a ways to go with this challenge.

- *Next time something isn't done your way, let it be, if it works.*

I once asked my nephew to help fold towels. The folded towels didn't look much better than when they were stuffed in the basket. Rather than correct him, I said thank you and helped put the towels away. What's the point? Just because it wasn't done the way I would have done it, doesn't lessen the value of the help given. And nobody who uses the towel cares how it was folded.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, lead me to live with a spirit of humility. Everything I am, I owe to you; everything I have, came from you.

To God be the glory. Amen.



FACILITY HAPPENINGS

Got to say January came in and went out very quietly weather wise, lets keep our fingers crossed that February does a repeat.

Speaking of February then it must be **SUPER BOWL SUNDAY** time. Game this year will be on the 12th. Going back to the **POT LUCK for game time meal**. If you want to participate please let us know what you want to bring so we can have an idea of duplicates etc. that we can work around if need be. Bring your favorite dish to the post by 4:30. Food line will start at 5 p.m. and run thru the first half of the game that starts at 6:30. Sign up sheet will be in the bar area, or e-mail me at vfw1503facmgt@comcast.net

On the 10th of February we will have our annual Valentine's day event in the canteen. Dinner will be served and the entertainment will be **DJ Danny**. Dinner to start at 5 p.m. until ??? (as food lasts).

A few in house issues to cover...

No smoking of marijuana is allowed on the property. It's still **ILLEGAL** to consume marijuana or product in or at any public place. The smell has been coming into the building and kitchen area. Enough said I hope. M/A's will be monitoring and write up's could be reason for canteen privilege's to be suspended.

Going forward due to the inflated cost of food and needing better control of salary's we are forced to redo the items being offered. By that I mean, in the past we have had to order something, different than what we already had on the menu each day. The prep cost and needing to purchase other items than our normal offerings has become too much week in and week out. So we are trying to still have a special (price) each day for something that does not have to be special ordered.

With the football season (other than the Super Bowl) over, we will be going back to closing on **SUNDAYS AT 7 P.M.**

John Meehan
Facility Manager



MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

My Purple Heart Medal is older than I am!

The Pentagon originally ordered a half million Purple Heart medals to be produced in anticipation of the heavy casualties expected in the planned invasion of the Japanese home islands in 1945. After atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan surrendered unconditionally thus ending World War II. The Allies did not have to execute "Operation Downfall" the invasion of Japan in which they estimated sustaining up a million casualties.

The US military has been presenting Purple Heart medals to service members from this surplus stock in every conflict since 1945. To date, the supply has yet to be exhausted. So unless you are 78 years old, your Purple Heart medal is older than you too.

All Gave Some, Some Gave All!



Yours in Patriotism,
Dom Dionne
Commander
Chapter 1775

*Be My
Valentine* 

MOC / MOCA

Comrades and Auxiliary members,

Winter Conference in Portsmouth, VA went terrific! Members of Put Tent 14 attended the grand meetings on the 14th (fitting for us) of January! Members of our Cooties Auxiliary should start their engines to gear up for another amazing bake sale this month on 14 February outside the Bingo Hall. Anyone seeking to take any elected positions in the MOC or MOCA for the next Cootie year is advised to come to the meeting on the 8th of February for our elections! Hope to see you there!

Robert "Check" Adamczyk

MOC Seam Squirrel
mrcheck@gmail.com



Laura Adamczyk

MOCA President
lauraadamczyk2@gmail.com

MOCA Bake Sale

Tuesday, Feb 14th 5:30pm

Outside Bingo Hall

**Sweets for your
Valentine's Sweet!**

**For more information or to
coordinate donations of
baked goods please contact:**

Susan Adamczyk (703) 763-6254

Laura Adamczyk (703) 763-6259



VFW February Entertainment

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

Friday Night

Saturday Night

February 3rd

DJ Joe Clay

Karaoke and Dance Party!

February 4th

DJ Michael

Dance Party! No Karaoke!

February 10th

DJ Danny

Dance Party!

February 11th

Made in the USA Band

**70's classic rock, modern country, and
dance**

February 17th

DJ Michael

Dance Party! No Karaoke!

February 18th

DJ Joe Clay

Karaoke and Dance Party

February 24th

DJ Michael or DJ Steve Boldin

**Dance Party with Karaoke with DJ Michael!
Or Video Dance Party with DJ Steve Boldin!**

February 25th

Speak Easy Band

Classic Rock, R&B, Country, and Blues music



February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Black History Month Specials	2 BINGO 7:30	3 DJ Joe Clay FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-9:00	4 DJ Michael Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
5 Breakfast 9-12:00	6	7 BINGO 7:30	8 Wacky Wacky Burgers MOCA 7:00 pm MOC 7:30 pm	9 BINGO 7:30	10 DJ Danny VALENTINE Dinners 5:00-9:00	11 Made In USA Band Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
12 Breakfast 9-12:00	13	14 Valentine's Day BINGO 7:30	15 Auxiliary 7:00 pm Post Meeting 7:00 pm	16 BINGO 7:30	17 DJ Michael FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-9:00	18 DJ Joe Clay Breakfast 9-12 AUX Breakfast WINGS 6:00-8:00
19 Breakfast 9-12:00	20 President's Day	21 BINGO 7:30	22	23 Black History Month Specials BINGO 7:30	24 DJ Michael or Steve FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-9:00	25 Speak Easy Band Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
26 Breakfast 9-12:00	27	28 BINGO 7:30				

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Post 1503

14631 Minnieville Road
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193



Next Monthly Meeting

February 15th

vfw1503.org

WACKY... WACKY... WEDNESDAY...

February 8th...

Wacky Burgers \$10.95 each

- Smokey Burger *Pepperjack Cheese, Shredded BBQ Pork, Fried Onion, Lettuce, Tomato, BBQ Mayo*
Southern Charm Burger *Candied Bacon BBQ Sauce, Cheddar Cheese, Carmelized Onions, Mayo*
Swiss Mushroom Burger
RED VFW Burger *Fried Egg, American Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, Mayo*
Chili Burger *Pepperjack Cheese, Chili, Jalapeno Pepper*

12 Noon until Supplies are Gone