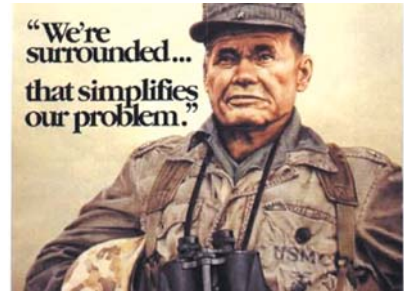




VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Post 1503

JUN 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



POST OFFICERS

Team,

Greeting and Salutations. I tell ya May was a fast moving month. It was an eventful month filled with meaningful activities and opportunities to honor our veterans and support our community.

First and foremost, on 6 May I and sixteen other members/volunteers held our National VFW Day of Service, where we cleaned up a two-mile section of Rt. 234, removing over twenty 33-gallon bags of debris. That same day we followed that up with our recently held post Officer Installation ceremony, where we welcomed our new leadership with open arms. The event was a testament to the unity and dedication that defines our post. We look forward to working closely together as we continue to serve and advocate for our fellow veterans.

We also had the privilege of hosting a District 10 Joint meeting with Comrades and Auxiliary members. It was a fantastic opportunity to connect and collaborate with other VFW posts in our district. We exchanged valuable insights, shared ideas, and strengthened our bonds as we strive for the common goal of supporting veterans and their families.

In celebration of Mother's Day, we organized a special breakfast meal to honor the incredible mothers within our organization. We recognize and appreciate the unwavering support they provide to our veterans, and it was a small token of our gratitude for their sacrifices and dedication.

As Memorial Day weekend approached, we geared up for our annual Buddy Poppy drive. This important event not only raises funds to support our veterans in need but also raises awareness about the sacrifices they have made for our country. We encouraged everyone to participate and wear a Buddy Poppy with pride, knowing that their contributions made a meaningful impact.

- 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



In line with honoring our fallen heroes, we took part in the laying of flags at the gravesites on Saturday, the 27th of May, at Quantico National Cemetery. This solemn tradition serves as a reminder of the ultimate sacrifice made by our service members. We invite all members and supporters to join us in this tribute.

On Monday, the 29th of May, we gathered at Quantico for a Memorial Service. It was a time for reflection, remembrance, and gratitude as we paid our respects to those who had given their lives in service to our nation. As a community we came together to honor their memory and ensure that their sacrifices are never forgotten.

Lastly, we held our annual Memorial Day VFW open house Community picnic. This event enlightened us and provided an excellent opportunity to say thank you to our members and invite our local community to learn more about the VFW and the services we provide. It was a day of fun, camaraderie, and creating new connections with our neighbors. A hearty Bravo Zulu to Auxiliary President Kelli Levitt, for organizing and ensuring the event and activities went off without a hitch.

Upcoming Events for June 2023

1-4 June – Department Convention Portsmouth, VA

07 June – Troop 1919 Court of Honor (B Hall)

14 June – Army Birthday

14 June – Flag Day

17 June – Cancer Family Relief Concert & Dance: Full Hall 1700 - 2200

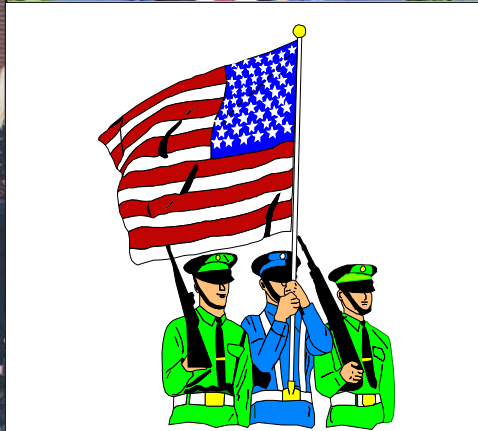
18 June – Father's Day

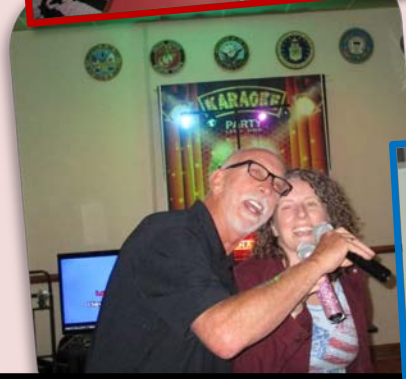
19 June – Juneteenth Holiday

24 June – Army Ball: Full Hall, Time: 1830, Dress: Semi-Formal

As we move forward into the next month, let us continue to stand together, united in our commitment to supporting veterans and their families. We are grateful for your ongoing support and dedication. Together, we make a difference. As always stay safe, continue to recruit and be kind to others. Speaking of recruiting, Post 1503 recruited 46 new members during the month of May, an outstanding achievement that continues to place us among the forefront of recruiting. 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. In addition, continue to review all the latest happenings and pictures from VFW Post 1503 events.

Bernie Carter – Post Commander
cdpost1503@vfwva.org





VFW AUXILIARY

Greetings Auxiliary 1503!
Welcome to June and the first month of the new Auxiliary Year!

It was great to see such a large crowd for our May meeting! Welcome to our new members – Dinah, Natalie, Wanda, Christina, Aisha, Christopher, Richard, Donna, Eleanor and Wendy.

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 Patty Wootten
2nd Yr Trustee Gina Powers
3rd Yr Trustee Rita Maldonado
Historian Venee Alicea
Patriotic Instructor Kimberly Murray

Remember our Recruiter Challenge

Please, do not miss out on this opportunity!

An Auxiliary Member who recruits ten (10) or more new or re-join members during the Auxiliary Year (7/1-6/30) will earn a beautiful, crisp \$100 bill!!!

Cash presented at the June 21st Meeting

May 6th was a busy day! Several Auxiliary members joined the Comrades for The VFW National Day of Service project with a roadside cleanup along a portion of Rt. 234. Later that evening, our 2023-2024 Officers were installed and treated to a lovely dinner at our post.

We had a great time at Auxiliary Breakfast on the 20th. Typically, our Breakfast is the third Saturday of each month – sometimes that falls before the meeting and sometimes after. This month it is before, on June 17th – hope you will join us! If you have Auxiliary shirts that you are no longer wearing and would consider donating those to current members, please either bring them to breakfast or contact me.

Memorial Day Weekend was full of events and remembrance. Auxiliary members participated in 'Flags In' and the Commemoration Ceremony at Quantico National Cemetery. We donated blood at the Post 1503/Red Cross Blood Drive. We handed out Buddy Poppies. We recruited, served food, made popcorn and even donated money to the dunk tank at the Post 1503 annual BBQ/Open House. Exhausting, but loads of fun!

After a quick breather, we will head to Portsmouth for the State Convention. If you have not been able to attend in the past, I encourage you to in the future!

We have an Assisted Living Facility visit scheduled for June 28th. If you are interested, please contact Jeanne Palomo for detailed information. jeannepalomo@gmail.com

As we begin our new year, Program Chairman are a MUST!! Please consider helping out with this! Please ask if you have any questions! Information on each program can be found in on the Auxiliary National web-site, here - [MALTA](#) While there, you can update your contact info, if needed, read blogs and learn all about the Auxiliary!

We are preparing to place our next [VFW Store Order](#). Orders are due by the June 21st meeting.

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

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

The Department School of Instruction is coming up in August, in Hopewell, VA. This is very informative, fun & an excellent way to learn new ideas and meet other members from across our state. Registration form is here - [Department Sol Registration Form](#)

Department Communications are on break and will return soon. If you would like to receive them electronically, you may do so here – [Department Communications Sign Up](#)



To sign up for Auxiliary 1503 Chaplain alerts – please contact Chaplain Michael at Auxiliarychaplain1503@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

VPW 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!! **VPW Post 1503 - Auxiliary**

VPW POST 1503 INTERVIEW PROJECT



You are invited to follow along as VPW 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 Robert

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



Memorial Day 2023

A decade and a half before Memorial Day became a federal holiday in 1971, Billy Graham was in Boston to deliver a memorial address to the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The year was 1955, and he had just finished visiting many U.S. military installations in Europe. Below are some excerpts from the archives of the Billy Graham Association of his timeless message, which still rings true this Memorial Day as we remember with gratitude the sacrifices of so many for our nation:



*Billy Graham speaking to the VFW
in Boston on August 27, 1955*

In all the American idiom, there is no more endearing word than “buddy.” It is warm, with intonations of friendship, brotherhood and common purpose. We are assembled today to pay tribute to those, our “buddies,” who poured out their full measure of devotion upon the altar of freedom.

Thousands of you gathered here could tell dramatic stories of heroism which you yourself have seen acted out by your buddies on the grim stage of war’s theater. They have left this realm of time and space, they have out-stripped us in life’s races, but the sacred memory of their selflessness and the freedom they died to obtain will live forever.

The freedoms we enjoy, the freedoms we take so much for granted, the freedoms we so often trifle with were bought not by the gold of our millionaires, nor altogether the genius of our scientists, nor the sacrifices of the people at home, but primarily by the blood, sweat and agony of those whose names on this day we honor – those who died that we might live!

They found, as have brave men of all ages, that there are principles well worth dying for. Their noble, unselfish sacrifice is a silent, eloquent rebuke to the self-centeredness of this generation. Let those who want “peace at any price” remember this day that thousands have died for honor and freedom and that what we have today has come at the price of shed blood.

As I stood in the hospital quarter of the Danish ship “Jutlandia” in Korean waters by an American boy scarcely 20 years of age and watched helplessly as this young life ebbed away, I thought: What right have thousands of pleasure-seeking Americans to go on living when this lad in the early flower of youth has to die? And in that moment, the fact dawned on me that if he had to die for America, some of us must live for America. Sometimes it is far more difficult to live than it is to die. They have handed us a torch, and we have a responsibility to see that they have not died in vain.

Yes the bells of liberty ring in America today because these men we honor today got through for us. The sacred memory of their sacrifice will always live in our hearts, and we have a sacred and holy trust – and we cannot fail them!

PRAYER: Heavenly Father, Almighty God, we are blessed to live in a nation of brave men and women who have greatly sacrificed for our country. Father, we pause to reflect on the sacrifice made by those who paid the ultimate price on behalf of our nation. We pray that their sacrifices are never forgotten, nor is the pain of their families. Remind me daily that my freedom came at a price someone else paid.

Ed Bennett
Chaplain

FACILITY HAPPENINGS

Writing this a week before our annual Memorial Day Open House celebration, and keeping fingers crossed that possible rain being forecast for Monday is not going to happen. If not the pavilion, will help us get thru the day.

Fathers Day June 18th a special breakfast menu will be offered **MEAT LOVERS DELIGHT**, featuring Steak and Eggs and a Smoke Sausage entree for those looking for something a little different. Normal breakfast hours for the day.

Speaking of breakfast, we think we have solved our problem with orders not being sent back to the kitchen causing back orders, and a real mess for both you and our wait staff. Keeping our fingers crossed and thanking you for your patience.

PARKING LOT – is going to be resealed and restriped during the month of June or early July. Working on schedule now. As in the past, half the parking lot will be closed for two days during this operation for 2 weeks, allowing the sealing to dry and striping to be completed.

HUBCAPS – Not going to be able to do it. Little interest shown and they have booked the two dates that we thought would work out. Let's all wish them well during there upcoming retirement years. They played here for over 20 years and became part of our family.

THE VFW VAN has been totaled. No one was hurt, but because of the age of the van, etc. it was declared a loss. Looking to replace it and if you know of anyone selling a van for 9 or more people, keep us in mind.

Reminder to check elsewhere in this newsletter for information of upcoming events this month such as the Army Ball and Lionel Wards Breast Cancer fundraiser, and our weekly Friday night dinner specials and entertainment for June.

John Meehan
Facility Manager

248th Army Birthday Ball



Saturday, June 24th, 2023

1830 Semi-Formal

VFWPost 1503

14631 Minnieville Road, Dale City, VA 22193



<https://vfwus.org/ArmyBall>

Cancer Family Relief Concert & Dance

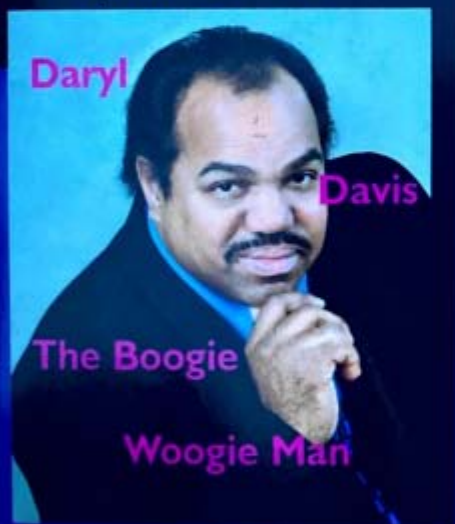
Purchase tickets on line at lionelward.com \$20.00
(703) 868-6478 (315) 717 6632 500pm-10:00pm



Andrew Chamberlin
Special Guest



Lionel Ward



Daryl

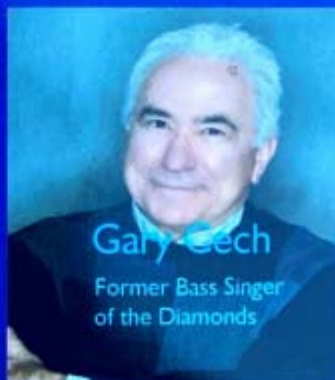
Davis

The Boogie

Woogie Man



The RockHits



Gary Gech

Former Bass Singer
of the Diamonds



The Uppper Band

June 17th 2023
14631 Minnieville Road,
Dale City, VA 22193

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

Chapter 1775 of the Military Order of the Purple Heart was chartered over 33 years ago at Marine Corps Base Quantico. Our Chapter currently consists of 209 members that live in 27 states, the District of Columbia, and 2 foreign countries.

Our members have all answered our Country's call. Now as combat wounded veterans, we proudly continue to serve our country by helping America's service members, veterans, and their families, and those that those who have borne the burden of battle. We act as their voice to our politicians about the costs of war and making sure those that did serve are properly cared for due to the price they paid in service to their country.

Please visit <https://www.purpleheart.org> and click on the "become a member" button if you are a Purple Heart recipient and are interested in assisting us in our mission. We meet the 3rd Saturday of the month in the VFW Post 1503 Canteen, stop by and talk with us if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing you!

All Gave Some, Some Gave All!



Yours in Patriotism,
Dom Dionne
Commander
Chapter 1775

LOVE DAD

MOC / MOCA

Comrades and Auxiliary Members,

It's been tough these last few years. As cooties, our mandate is to keep them smiling in beds of white. We haven't been able to go into the hospitals since 2020. For a lot of us, going to the hospital and visiting our veterans was a real motivator. It's what we do, and we haven't been able to do it for three cootie years! We're happy to report that it looks like we will finally be able to start our hospital visits up again in June! Look for information coming soon on that front.

The Fourth of July Parade is coming up fast. Please contact Romeo or Laura if you'd like to help out. We usually have space for people to ride and to walk and pass out candy. We need people out there wearing our funny hats and representing the MOC/MOCA Put Tent 14!

This is the last newsletter article for the 2022-2023 year. A big thank you to everyone who helped out so much throughout the year. We look forward to another great year for 2023-2024!

Robert "Check" Adamczyk

MOC Seam Squirrel
mrcheck@gmail.com



Laura Adamczyk

MOCA President
lauraadamczyk2@gmail.com



JUNE

#3105753

VFW June Entertainment

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

Friday Night *June 2nd*

DJ Joe Clay
Joeyoke & Dance Music

Saturday Night *June 3rd*

The Pam Palono Band
Classic/Modern Rock, Blues, Variety

Friday Night *June 9th*

DJ T Play
Old School Dance and Karaoke!

Saturday Night *June 10th*

DJ Michael
Kamikaze Karaoke and Dance

Friday Night *June 16th*

DJ Danny
Dance Party

Saturday Night *June 17th*

DJ Joe Clay
Joeyoke & Dance Music

Friday Night *June 23rd*

DJ Kelli
Dance Music!

Saturday Night *June 24th*

DJ Michael
Kamikaze Karaoke and Dance

Friday Night *June 30th*

DJ Steve Bolden
Videos and Dance Music



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 BINGO 7:30	2 DJ Joe Clay FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-8:00	3 Pam Palono Band Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
4 Breakfast 9-12:00	5	6 BINGO 7:30	7	8 BINGO 7:30	9 DJ T Play FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-8:00	10 DJ Michael Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
11 Breakfast 9-12:00	12	13 BINGO 7:30	14 FLAG DAY MOCA 7:00 pm MOC 7:30 pm	15 BINGO 7:30	16 DJ Danny FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-8:00	17 DJ Joe Clay Breakfast 9-12 AUX Breakfast WINGS 6:00-8:00
18 Father's Day Specials Breakfast 9-12:00	19 Juneteenth	20 BINGO 7:30	21 Auxiliary 7:00 pm Post Meeting 7:00 pm	22 BINGO 7:30	23 DJ Kelli FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-8:00	24 DJ Michael Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
25 Breakfast 9-12:00	26	27 BINGO 7:30	28	29 BINGO 7:30	30 DJ Steve Bolden FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-8:00	

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Post 1503

14631 Minnieville Road
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193



Next Monthly Meeting

June 21st

vfw1503.org



**Flag
Day**