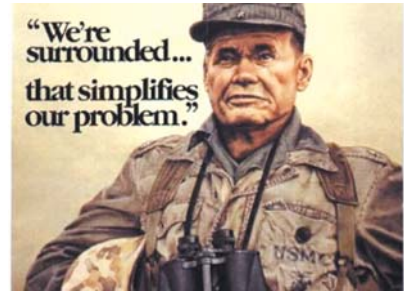




VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Post 1503

OCT 23



General Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller

1463 I 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,

Greetings and Salutations, as summer bids farewell and we welcome the autumn breeze, I'm delighted to share the highlights of our recent events and what lies ahead for our Veterans of Foreign Wars at Post 1503. September was a month of celebration, remembrance, and community involvement.

Our Labor Day and Family Fun Day extravaganza was a resounding success! Families gathered for a day filled with laughter, delicious food, and camaraderie. The highlight of the event was the live performance by the Pam Pelano Band, whose music had everyone dancing and tapping their feet. It was a perfect way to honor the hard work and dedication of our members, and community while creating cherished memories with our families.

In the spirit of service, we participated in the Mr. Handyman National Day of Service Project. In conjunction with over 40 volunteer organizations, members of Post 1503 provided food, drink, and conversation to an overly enthusiastic crowd of volunteer workers who labored tirelessly to improve the home of a local veteran in need. It was a heartwarming experience to witness the impact of our collective efforts on the lives of those who have served our nation. This was our 14th year of affiliation with Mr. Handyman and I deeply appreciate their efforts and the efforts of our members who assisted.

We held Patriot Day and National Day of Remembrance as solemn reminders of the events of September 11, 2001. We observed this day with words and our spirit to honor the lives lost and to express our unwavering support for our first responders and military personnel who continue to protect our freedoms. The National Day of Remembrance reminded us all to engage in acts of service and volunteerism in tribute to the victims, survivors, and those who rose in response to the attacks.

Our POW/MIA Memorial Service ceremony was a moving tribute to those who have endured the hardships of being prisoners of war or missing in action. With the presence of our Honor Guard, we paid our

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



respects to these heroes and reaffirmed our commitment to bringing them home. Special thanks, to our Senior Vice, Ben Guinan, and Post Honor Guard, who performed a flawless ceremony in my absence.

We marked the 76th Air Force Birthday with great enthusiasm, recognizing the dedication and achievements of this branch of the military. Many thanks, to our guest speaker, Charles P. "Chuck" Wilson, Col USAF (Ret.) for delivering such memorable words. It was a day to honor the Air Force veterans among us and acknowledge their contributions to our nation's security.

As we look ahead to the coming month, we have a special treat in store for our dedicated bingo volunteers. Our Bingo Social Dinner is a way to express our gratitude for their hard volunteer hours and commitment to ensure our post remains at the tip of the spear in providing a warm and inviting sanctuary for our members. It's a time to relax, socialize, and celebrate the sense of community that thrives within our post.

Upcoming Events for October 2023

7 Oct – BINGO Appreciation Social – A-Hall – 1800

9 Oct – Columbus Day observed

11 Oct – Navy Birthday Cake Cutting Ceremony – Canteen 1800

13 Oct – Navy Birthday observed

14-15 – Boy Scouts Mulch Setup/Delivery 1000 bags – Back Parking lot

21 Oct – MOC/MOCA Cornhole Tournament – Pavilion

28 Oct – Auxiliary Children's Halloween Party – A Hall or Trunk n' Treat 1300-1500

28 Oct – Adult Halloween Party/Costume Contest -- 1900 (A&B Hall)

And 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 27 new members during July, an outstanding achievement that continues to place us at 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
cdrpost1503@vfwva.org





VFW AUXILIARY

Happy Fall Y'all! Loving the cooler temps and the beauty of this season!

Great turnout for our September meeting, with 36 members!! Welcome to our new members – Eladia, Renada, Carmelita, Lynn, Monica, Connie & Amanda.

There were seven for breakfast this month, with lots of conversation, solving world problems, eating and laughing! Hope to see you this month on the 21st.

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

ANNUAL MEMBERS – please check your membership card! If it shows an expiration date of 12/31/2023 – now is the time to RENEW!! \$20 until 10/31/2023 – after is \$25. We will have a drawing for one Life Member ‘upgrade’ at our November meeting, for all annual members who renew between July 1 and October 31.

Please mail checks to:

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

Checks or Cash (in an envelope with your name & membership number) may be given to the bartender.

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

The ‘Pen Pals for Vets’ for our friends at Arbor Chase Assisted Living Facility is growing! We are adding the fourteen Veteran residents at Potomac Place Assisted Living!! Cards are available at each meeting for you to sign. There is also a collection box in the Canteen if you would like to drop off your own cards. Jeanne will collect them periodically and deliver them to the Veteran residents.

In September, our Auxiliary members attended the Post 1503 Patriot’s Day Ceremony, National POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony, the Labor Day BBQ and the USAF Birthday Celebration! In addition, we provided and served lunch on the 8th, to the crew of Mr. Handyman, on their National Day of Service and we attended the Flag Raising Ceremony at Osbourn Park HS in honor of September 11th. While there, we presented Certificates to two students, who continue to volunteer at our Post bingo, and a \$300 check to the NJROTC Program.

Auxiliary annual Trunk-or-Treat is scheduled for Saturday, October 28 from 1-3, in the back parking lot at Post 1503. Volunteers are needed to pass out provided treats. Please plan to arrive by noon. Hope you will get in the spirit of fun by decorating your vehicle! There are some awesome ideas on the web, and some pre made kits on Amazon that are very reasonably priced!

Post 1503 is planning a huge adult Halloween/Costume contest party in ‘A’ Hall on October 28. Our Auxiliary agreed to help by providing three (or more) volunteers for a 50/50 raffle. If you are interested in helping, please contact Michael Alicea via email [here](#).

We continue to have the need for Program Chairman. This is a vital part of our Auxiliary – please consider helping out! Information on each program can be found on the Auxiliary National web site, here - <https://malta.vfwauxiliary.org/Account/NewLogin>. While there, you can update your contact info, if needed, read blogs and learn all about the Auxiliary!

Our Community Outreach Program Chairman Crystal, has an event scheduled with A.C.T.S. in Dumfries on October 11th from 9-12. **Pre-registration is REQUIRED!!** Please contact Crystal at mcrystaldp@gmail.com **ASAP**, if you would like to volunteer!

VFW Store Orders are placed every quarter, and our Auxiliary covers shipping! Next order will be placed after the December meeting. Orders will not be accepted without an order form and payment in full.

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

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

District 10 Auxiliary is collecting non-perishable food items! The donated items will be delivered to the Martinsburg VAMC Food Bank and distributed to Veteran's in need of assistance. Please consider helping by donating what you can to this much-needed cause.

If you would like to receive the monthly Department Communications 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
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 **Rob**

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



HALLOWEEN WALK THRU TRUNK-or-TREAT

SATURDAY OCTOBER 28TH 1-3

VFW POST 1503 - (back parking lot)

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



FOOD DRIVE

VFW & Auxiliary 1503 are collecting non-perishable food items for Martinsburg VAMC Food Bank. Historically the holidays are times when more people need assistance and the Food Bank often runs low during this time. We can help alleviate this issue by contributing food items.

Cash/check donations accepted:

Martinsburg VAMC Food Bank

Martinsburg VAMC Food Bank will distribute items to area Veterans in need of assistance.

Collection end date: 11/3/23

Needed Items at Food Bank:

LENTILS

SPAGHETTI SAUCE

CHICKEN-CANNED/POUCH

LOW SODIUM CANNED SOUP

SALMON-CANNED/POUCHED

TUNA-CANNED/POUCHED

WHITE SHELF STABLE MILK

BEANS - NORTHERN, BLACK, PINTO

CANNED VEGETABLES

QUICK OATS

PEANUT BUTTER

CANNED FRUIT

PASTA – WHOLE WHEAT

POWDERED MILK



DONATE EARLY AND DONATE OFTEN



FACILITY HAPPENINGS

Really can't believe it's October already. But the leaves are a changing colors, football is being played and plans are being made for our annual **Halloween** going on here at the post so let's get to it.

Kids party **TRUCK OR TREAT** and Adult party both being held on the 28th of this month. See info elsewhere in this newsletter on the kids party. Adult party being planned and depending on the number of pre-sale tickets sold will go something like this:

CANTEEN: DINNER & DJ as usual starting at 5 pm until 8 pm (see flyer elsewhere in this newsletter for menu). DJ in canteen as usual 8 pm to 12 midnight.

A & B HALLS: BAND-COSTUME PARTY CONTEST-7 PM TO 12 Midnight again see flyer elsewhere in this newsletter for details. **PRE-SALES ARE VERY IMPORTANT** so don't wait until the last minute to get tickets. If Pre-Sales 2 weeks prior to event are not at a certain number then we will have to cancel this and go back to everything in the Canteen.

WACKY WEDNESDAY IS BACK – Again menu elsewhere in this newsletter. Trying something different on hours to open this up to others than just our day time members. OCT 4TH 12 pm to 4 pm 1st one and on OCT 25TH 5 pm to 10 pm the other.

TOUCH TUNES SYSTEM – We have installed this popular (Juke Box) system for your pleasure. Play your favorite song anywhere in the Canteen area by using cash at the machine or your cell phone once you've downloaded the program.



John Meehan
Facility Manager

MOC / MOCA

The Military Order of Cootie as well as the Auxiliary would like to let you all know that there's a decent chance you're eligible to join our crummy ranks! We would love to recruit some new Comrades into the Honor Degree of the VFW. The first great duty of all true Nits is to Increase and Multiply! What's a Nit? A Comrade who is closer than a brother/sister! Plenty of fun and a great mission! We also need our annual members to renew.

No new MOC business, but a fun set of events around the corner. This month we will hold our annual cornhole tournament on October 21st. Every year we hold this tournament to raise funds for the crummy things we do year-round. Our fundraising helps us pay for personal care items, food, and fun for the patients we visit almost every other month at the VA Hospital in Richmond. Let's hope for a successful and fun cornhole tournament for all this year. Tomb trek is planned for 3-5 Nov 23 at the Crystal City Sheraton. PT 14 Cooties should turn out in droves. Check Supreme website www.lotcs.org for details.

Our next scratch will be October 11 at 1900 for MOCA, 1930 for MOC. Hope to see you there!

Closer than a Brother, Busier than a Bee!

Charles "Romeo" Marlowe
MOC Seam Squirrel
romeovfw1503@outlook.com

Laura Adamczyk
MOCA President
lauraadamczyk2@gmail.com





50/50 raffle Prizes for winners

October 21st, 2023

\$20/PP

Includes

Food & Drinks

\$10 PP - Food & Drink only

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

Laura Adamczyk 703-763-6259
Lauraadamczyk2@gmail.com
Romeo 540-645-7797
Romeovfw1503@outlook.com

Fundraiser

Sponsored by the
Military Order of the Cootie
and its Auxiliary
Puptent 14 Da-Lec-Ity.

Sign In @ 11am

Games @ Noon

VFW Post 1503

Pavilion

14631 Minnieville Rd

Dale City



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Fall Leaves

I love the fall. It can be cool but not cold; and, it can be warm but not hot. In other words, "It's just right!" And then there's the fall foliage. The leaves begin their transformation from green to take on shades of yellow, orange, red, purple, and brown before they begin to drop and carpet the ground.

It turns out a tree letting go of its leaves in the fall is a form of self-protection. Dropping them gives the tree a healthy fresh start in the spring. Nature teaches us that to move forward often requires that something must go. What is truly miraculous about this process is that the trees still stand. The branches still reach out and upward; unlike plants along a walkway, that have to be cut back and will re-grow from their roots next spring. The trees still stand through the hardship of winter and will emerge in the spring healthy and beautiful.

This is such an image of what God can do in our lives. We go through all kinds of seasons. Some are seasons of hard times, loneliness, seasons of loss or other hardships. We also have seasons that are bright, beautiful and joyful, and all of these seasons both hard and beautiful, change us.

"Fear not, for I am with you, be not dismayed, for I am your God: I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous hand." Isaiah 41: 10

God reminds us that He is still there standing strong. He is still holding us up. He says let go of things you are holding on to and give them over to Him. Letting go is much like the leaves that will drop this fall ... It is a sign of the beautiful things to come.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, the seasons change, but I know you do not. I am grateful you are my rock and solid foundation. I will trust in your unfailing love and mercy to uphold me through the changing seasons of my life and to help me navigate the unknown journey that lies ahead.

Ed Bennett

Chaplain

TROOP 1919

Fall 2023 mulch sales are now **OPEN**. The last day to place your order is October 7th (Sat). Free delivery by our scouts will be made between October 14th (Sat) - 15th (Sun). Please reach us by email at: troop1919mulch@gmail.com for any questions. Troops 1196G and 1919B and appreciate your support!

Orders are open until 7 October at this web site: <https://troop-1919-mulch-sales.square.site/>

MILITARY ORDER PURPLE HEART

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



POST SURGEON

Youth Scholarships and Teacher of the Year Awards Nominations

Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen submissions as well as Teacher of the Year nominations are being solicited through 31 October 2023.

Voice of Democracy (High School):

Established in 1947, the Voice of Democracy audio-essay program provides high school students with the unique opportunity to express themselves in regards to a democratic and patriotic-themed recorded essay. Each year, nearly 25,000 ninth through 12th grade students from across the country enter to win their share of more than \$1.3 million in educational scholarships and incentives awarded through the program.

This year's theme is: **"What Are the Greatest Attributes of Our Democracy?"**

Prizes are awarded at the Post, State and National levels. The Post awards \$100-\$1,000 for winners and increases to \$35,000 for the winner at National level.

More information, entry forms and rules can be found at: vfw.org/youth

Patriot's Pen (Grades 6-8):

Each year, nearly 68,800 students in sixth through eighth grades enter the VFW's Patriot's Pen youth essay contest for a chance to win their share of more than \$1.4 million in state and national awards.

This year's theme is: **"How Are You Inspired by America?"**

Prizes are awarded at the Post, State and National levels. The Post awards \$50-\$500 for winners and increases to \$5,000 for the winner at National level.

More information, entry forms and rules can be found at: vfw.org/youth

Teacher of the Year (Elementary, Middle and High School):

Without our nation's veterans, America wouldn't be the great nation it is today. Our youth deserve to learn about our rich history, traditions and the role of our veterans in creating and shaping America.

Each year, the Veterans of Foreign Wars selects elementary, middle, and high school teachers to participate in the Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher program.

The Post awards \$300 to each awardee and increase through the National level.

More information, entry forms and rules can be found at: vfw.org/youth

All current certified/licensed teachers in grades K-12 are eligible. Previous national winners are ineligible. Nominations can be submitted by themselves, fellow teachers, supervisors, family members or other interested individuals.

Submissions for these opportunities can be dropped off or mailed to

VFW Post 1503

Post Surgeon – Dan Walczyk

14631 Minnieville Road

Dale City, VA 22195

Please email any questions to danwalczyk@yahoo.com

Dan Walczyk
Post Surgeon

VFW Post 1503 – Saturday, Oct. 28th

Halloween Costume Party/contest!

Entrance on pavilion side of VFW

Doors open at 7pm - Party from 8pm - Midnight

Live Music with

True Soul Band



Costume contest with prizes @ 10PM

This event is open to the public - 25 and Older

IDs will be checked by PWC Police

Tickets on sale on Eventbrite

\$15 in advance \$20 at the door

VFW Members and their immediate family = free



Scan the QR code or type the following into a web browser: <https://vfwus.org/hw23>



VFW October Entertainment

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

Friday Night

Saturday Night

October 6th

DJ Danny
Dance Music Party

October 7th

Rockhits!
Classic Rock Band

October 13th

DJ Kelly
Dance Music Party

October 14th

DJ Michael
Dance Party with Karaoke!

October 20th

DJ Danny
Dance Music Party

October 21st

DJ T Play
Dance Party with Karaoke!

October 27th

DJ Joe Clay
Karaoke DJ

October 28th

DJ Danny
Dance Music Party

Saturday Night – October 28th in the Bingo hall

2023 VFW Halloween Costume Party!

Live music with the True Soul Band

Doors open at 7pm



Halloween Specials ...

Spaghetti and Eye Balls **\$7.95**

Spaghetti with Meatballs and Garlic Bread

Terrifying Tenders **\$8.75**

Chicken Tenders served with French Fries

Gruesome Chili with Severed Fingers ... **\$5.50**

Bowl of Chili served with Hot Dog

BOO Burger with Cheese **\$6.25**

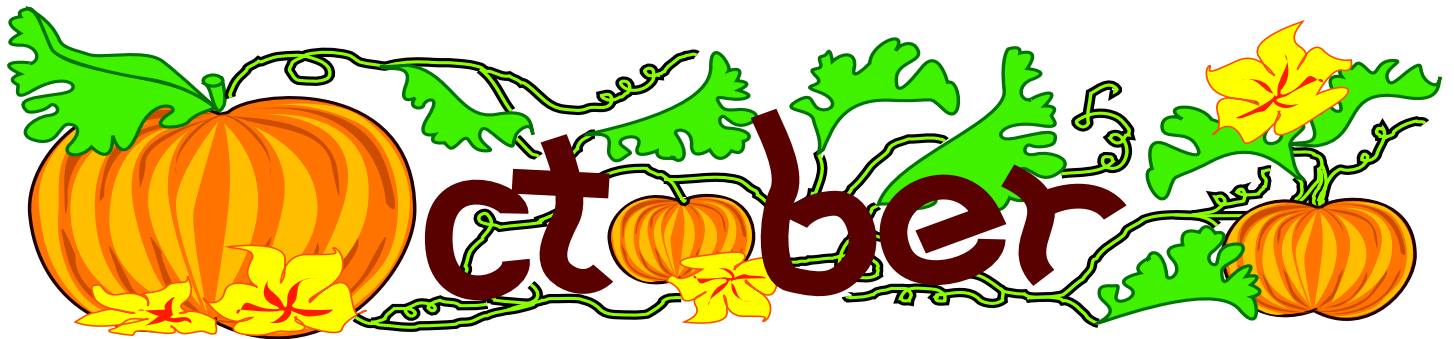
Cheeseburger with French Fries

Scary House Salad **\$3.50**

Scary Chef Salad **\$7.00**

Bat Wings with Fries **\$10.75**

Wing Dings served with French Fries



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Breakfast 9-12:00	2	3 BINGO 7:30	4 Wacky Wacky Wednesday Seafood 12 noon - 4 p.m.	5 BINGO 7:30	6 DJ Danny FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-8:00	9 Bingo Appreciation Rockhits Band Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
8 Breakfast 9-12:00	9 Columbus Day	10 BINGO 7:30	11 NAVY Birthday Cake Cutting Canteen 1800 MOCA 7:00 pm MOC 7:30 pm	12 BINGO 7:30	13 NAVY Birthday DJ Kelly FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-8:00	14 DJ Michael Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
15 Breakfast 9-12:00	16	17 BINGO 7:30	18 Auxiliary 7:00 pm Post Meeting 7:00 pm	19 BINGO 7:30	20 DJ Danny FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-8:00	21 DJ T Play Breakfast 9-12 AUXILIARY Breakfast WINGS 6:00-8:00
22 Breakfast 9-12:00	23	24 BINGO 7:30	25 Wacky Wacky Wednesday Burgers 5 p.m. - 10 p.m.	26 BINGO 7:30	27 DJ Joe Clay FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-8:00	28 DJ Danny Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
29 Breakfast 9-12:00	30	31 Halloween BINGO 7:30	21 Oct – MOC/MOCA Cornhole Tournament – Pavilion 28 Oct – Auxiliary Children’s Halloween Party – A Hall or Trunk n’ Treat 1300-1500 28 Oct – Adult Halloween Party/Costume Contest -- 1900 (A&B Hall)			

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Post 1503

14631 Minnieville Road
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193



Next Monthly Meeting

October 18th

vfw1503.org

Wacky Wacky Wednesday ...

October 4th ... 12 noon - 4 p.m.

Steamed Shrimp	\$10.95
Broiled Scallops	\$11.95
Fried Whiting	\$9.95

October 25th ... 5 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Smokey Burger	\$10.95
Southern Charm Burger	\$10.95
Chili Burger	\$10.95
Swiss Cheese Mushroom Burger	\$10.95
Red VFW Burger	\$10.95
Quesadilla Burger	\$10.95