



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Post 1503

JUNE 2020



General Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller

14631 MINNIEVILLE ROAD • DALE CITY, VIRGINIA 22193 • 703.670.4124

www.vfw1503.org

CANTEEN HOURS: Sunday / Monday / Wednesday 12 Noon - 11 PM
Tuesday / Thursday / Saturday 12 Noon - 12 Midnight • Friday 12 Noon - 2 AM

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Comrades,

VFW Post 1503 will be CLOSED until further notice.

STATE CONVENTION is scheduled for JUNE 27TH, 2020 at VFW POST 9808 IN MECHANICSVILLE, VA. (One-day event)

4th July Parade and VOD Golf Tournament are canceled

Election results for 2020/2021 incoming officers.

- Commander Tom Levitt
• Senior Vice Commander Bernie Carter
• Junior Vice Commander Ben Guinan
• Chaplain Ed Bennett
• Quartermaster Tim Brown
• 3 Year Trustee Tom Gimble
• Judge Advocate Star Martinez
• Surgeon Robert Adamczyk

Congratulation to all! (Installation to be determined)

We held a Flag Retirement Ceremony Saturday, May 23rd, 2020 in the Pavillion retiring over ELEVEN hundred flags.



POST OFFICERS

- Post Commander . . . Thomas Williams, Jr.
Senior Vice Thomas Levitt II
Junior Vice Bernie Carter
Quartermaster Tim Brown
Judge Advocate Randy Coker
Surgeon Star Martinez
Chaplain. Ed Bennett
3 Year Trustee Ron Laney
2 Year Trustee. John Dodge
1 Year Trustee Tom Gimble
Adjutant Ben Guinan
Service Officer. Ed Tatum
Asst. Service Officer Tami Brown
House Committee Chairman. Joe Saitta
Past Commander Tim Brown



This pandemic is new for all of us, creating unprecedented uncertainty. When we enter into the various stages of Opening Virginia we will need to redesign your Post visit to signal that your experience is safe. We will offer explicit deep cleaning protocols for your tables, less server contact, and less dense seating. We are planning as we go along to ensure staff and your safety during this process of reopening Post 1503.

Now, as restrictions are cautiously lifted, we aim to have in place:

- Point-of-entry symptom and temperature screenings for all staff, and members.
- Mandatory masking for all staff.
- Re-arranged seating areas to allow for appropriate social distancing.
- Regular cleaning and sanitizing of all areas.
- Flag Day June 14th
- US Army Birthday June 14th
- Fathers Day June 21st

Next Meeting will be held May 17th via Webex...

Stay Safe... and Stay Healthy!



Thomas Williams, Jr.
Commander Post 1503

VFW AUXILIARY

Welcome to June, Auxiliary 1503 Members! Happy Father's Day!

Looks like our area is finally entering the re-opening stage! Look for announcements via Constant Contact, FB pages [VFW Post 1503 - Auxiliary / Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1503](#) or Post 1503 website www.vfw1503.org for updates. Although the various re-opening stages will limit the number of people permitted to gather, and services offered, it will be wonderful to see everyone again in our post home.

Our May membership meeting was held via ZOOM on the 20th. Was a little easier to navigate and conduct our business the second time! The membership voted to send a \$2,000 donation to ACTS! They are providing much needed food, services and assistance to Prince William County residents during this crisis. www.actspwc.org

On May 23rd, Post 1503 conducted a Flag Retirement Ceremony. Laura, Jackie, Marvis and I were able to assist the Comrades to retire over 1100 flags. The next ceremony, slated for June, will be on the calendar. Auxiliary members are always welcome to participate.

From Auxiliary National

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) Auxiliary is pleased to announce the winners of its annual Continuing Education Scholarship contest. Four \$1,000 scholarships were awarded, one in each of the Auxiliary Conferences. Congratulations to all the winners! Below is Virginia's own, Katrina Duff...

Katrina Duff was named the winner of the Southern Conference. Duff, a Life Member of VFW Auxiliary 8947 in Mineral, Virginia is a certified nursing assistant (CNA) studying at Germanna Community College to become a nurse.

Duff said the Auxiliary scholarship will lessen the burden of student loans she needs to go back to

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President.....	Kelli Levitt
Sr. Vice President.....	Reggie Garland
Jr. Vice President.....	Susan Adamczyk
Secretary.....	Betty Gimble
Treasurer.....	Karla Coker
Chaplain.....	Joyce DelVecchio
Conductress.....	Jan Kiecker
Guard.....	Laura Adamczyk
1st Yr Trustee.....	Janell Garland
2nd Yr Trustee.....	Rebecca Moninghoff
3rd Yr Trustee.....	Monika Walczyk
Historian.....	Joyce Gibbs
Patriotic Instructor.....	Janelle Garland

school to pursue a second career. Due to the demands of nursing school hours, she is only able to work part-time, and her spouse is a disabled veteran awaiting acceptance into a vocational rehabilitation program. Continuing her education will take pressure off her husband and family.

"It will allow him to find a civilian career he enjoys rather than just making ends meet," she said. "Beyond stabilizing my family (that includes four children), I love nursing. When I was laid off from my IT career, I was excited at the opportunity to start again at something I enjoy and that can do a little bit of good in the world."

Did you know... with your Auxiliary membership, you have access to a huge network of money saving products and services in the insurance and benefits industry. From insurance, to office supplies, travel and more - information can be found at www.vfwauxiliary.org

VFW Auxiliary 10th District meeting is scheduled for June 14th at Post 1503. More information to follow, pending re-opening guidelines.

If you would like to attend Department Convention, in person or via phone/computer, you must register in advance. Please complete the form below if you plan to attend. One day convention, pending re-opening guidance.

<https://mailchi.mp/341e9e7122a8/vfw-auxiliary-dept-of-virginia-april-4234325?e=24b19f203a>

2020-2021 VFW & Auxiliary Officer Installation is tentatively scheduled for June 20th, at Post 1503. More information as it becomes available.

As you may have heard, the annual Dale City 4th of July Parade has been cancelled.

If you have any contact information that needs updated, you can do it quickly and easily at - www.vfwauxiliary.org click on Malta Member Login. Also, if you are not receiving Constant Contact messages and would like to, please let me know so that I can add you!

Enjoy the sunshine and warm weather!

As always, if you have questions, concerns, comments or are in need of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me or any of our officers ñ we are here to help.

Kelli Levitt

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



FACILITY HAPPENINGS

As of the date this is being written we are still in no man's zone as to when we can start the process to reopen for business.

We have ordered safety items so we have them on hand when we get the OK. Many other things will have to be addressed such as the minimum 6 foot rule at the bar and tables thru out the canteen area, re-location of some of the Powerhouse and Grover gaming machines to the dance floor area, and whatever other requirements are placed on us by the state of Virginia.

We will probably have the 50 person rule in effect when we hit the phase two area of process, we will do the best we can to come up with a plan that is fair as possible for everyone. Believe me, this is going to be a learning process for all of us.

By the time we do reopen, it will be at least two full months that no income of any kind as been coming into the Post. No bingo income, no canteen or gambling income etc. In the mean time we are still paying for various utilities, insurance's and other pre-existing expenditures.

So please be patient we will do everything possible to make a safe environment in anticipation of your return to the POST.

John Meehan
Facility Manager



MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

Patriots:

We had our Chapter meeting at the VFW pavilion this past Saturday with social distancing adhered too. We held our elections again to satisfy the State and National policy. The results are as follows: Commander - Ron Laney, Senior Vice Commander - Dom Dionne, Junior Vice Commander - Joe Ramos, Finance Officer & Adjutant - Tom Gimble, Sgt.-At-Arms - Matt McGuire, 1 year Trustee - Dick Hanscom, 2 year Trustee - Brian Flom, and Chaplain - David Kline. Congratulations to our new Chapter Officers and I look forward to working with you all this year! We were notified that the Dale City Fourth of July Parade had been cancelled and so has our Memorial Day ceremony at Quantico. We did decide to continue to hold our Chapter meetings as scheduled on third Saturday of each month at 1000 hours at VFW Post # 1503 in the pavilion until we can go back inside. We also voted to continue to support the JROTC scholarship fund as we have in the past. If any Patriot knows of any combat wounded veteran or family that needs assistance in these pandemic times, please let us know ASAP. In the meantime, stay safe and keep in touch!

The next Chapter meeting is Saturday, June 20th. 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



Our normal May is packed with events. Placing flags honoring those that made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our nation. Attending and hosting events at the Post, Quantico Cemetery and various other locations. This May has been much different than in the past.

With our situation changed so dramatically we are challenged to think differently. Some would say think outside the box. We would rather say maximize the rules of the box and challenge the confines of the box to re-define it to keep moving forward. For example, we are all learning to conduct business virtually. This past month the MOC and MOCA conducted our Scratch and Meeting via online meeting as our parent organizations the VFW and Auxiliary have done.

Both the MOC and MOCA voted on donations in the amount of \$1,000 for the Memorial Day BBQ, put on by the staff at McGuire. They are doing a fantastic job entertaining the patients and doing their best to keep them connected, virtually with family and friends. Although we were not able to be with them in person, we hope that our donations helped them to have an enjoyable day.

We also put together a video and picture collage to share with the Veterans. This was possible due to the joint participation of the MOC/MOCA, Post Members and Auxiliary who came out to the Flag Retirement on the 23rd of May as well as the technical and artistic support of our incoming Post Judge Advocate, Star Martinez. Thanks so much to all who participated!! Link to the video is below.

If you are making masks and providing them to Veterans, please let Kelli know, as this can be included in our hospital report.

With all in person group hospital visits cancelled, we will continue to look for ways to spread cheer and support our hospitalized Veterans.

As of this writing, Grand Convention is scheduled at Post 9808 in Mechanicsville from 2:15 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. on the 27th of June. Please watch your emails for any changes as a lot of plans will be conditions based and are subject to change. We appreciate everyone's understanding and flexibility. We will also continue to conduct our MOC/MOCA Scratch and Meeting virtually in June.

All that we are doing is part of re-defining our "box". We look forward to the time when we can begin to gather again in groups and enjoy closer camaraderie. A final thought as we move forward in uncertain times and re-define our box. No one in a position of leadership has cornered the market on good ideas or even the best idea. Your input is valued and needed.

Memorial Day message to McGuire VA:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CVhCLByHD54&authuser=0>

KEEP THEM SMILING IN BEDS OF WHITE!!!

Tom Levitt

MOC Seam Squirrel
levitt.tm@gmail.com
703-895-5070



***Flag
Day***

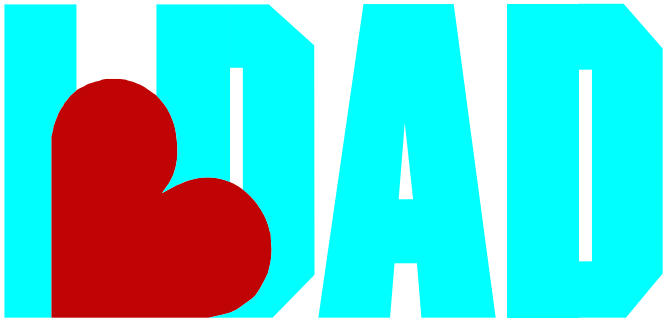
Kelli Levitt

MOCA President
itsmekelli@aol.com
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Veterans of Foreign Wars

Post 1503

14631 Minnieville Road
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193



Next Monthly Meeting

June 17TH via Webex

www.vfw1503.org

