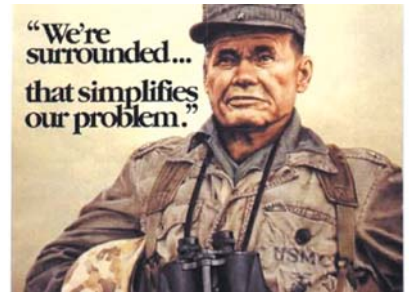




VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

NOV 2020



General Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller

Post 1503

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 and Auxiliary Members,

This past month we welcomed back our Facility Manager John Meehan who has hit the ground running, well walking but you know what I mean. His presence at the helm was missed by a lot of us and not just the folks in the office and throughout the facility who stepped up and made it happen during his absence, I personally am glad to have him back!!

We had an active October celebrating the 245th birthday of our Naval Forces, getting out and raising money for hospitalized veterans playing Cornhole (bean bag toss) and passing out goodies and trinkets for our Trunk or Treat. Many thanks to the organizations that support our VFW including the MOC/MOCA who organized the Cornhole Tournament, the Post Auxiliary who sponsored the Trunk or Treat and the unsung heroes behind the scenes that made it all happen. A special thanks to Ray Van Horn who normally puts on our Haunted House that was cancelled due to the pandemic, he brought in several effects and decorations to help support the Trunk or Treat and make it a bit spookier!!

Looking forward to November we will have a lot of our usual events and then some, adapted to our current environment during this pandemic. Our perennial USMC Birthday Chair Papa Six (Ron Laney) is heading up the USMC birthday celebration and has provided details in his MOPH article on how that will take place. Our Buddy Poppy drive that goes solely to the Veteran's Relief Fund will be the weekend of 7/8 November but at fewer locations than in the past. The sign-up book will be in the canteen ~ if you would like to do more or put cans together please contact our Jr. Vice Commander Ben Guinan. There will also be an opportunity to donate virtually at the following link:

vfwus.org/poppy

On the 11th of the month we honor all who served on Veteran's Day. We will not have our usual Veteran's Day activities but we will have a small ceremony to commemorate the day in the canteen at 1800 HRS. Please come out and help us celebrate all who have served and continue to serve. All events at Quantico National Cemetery and the normal BBQ provided by the Diversity Lodge have been cancelled during this current pandemic.



POST OFFICERS

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

On the 21st of the month we will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of our Post with a dinner and celebration attended by our National Commander in Chief, Hal Roesch who will be the guest speaker. Due to COVID restrictions we are limited to a maximum of 125 guests. We are allowing invited guests until 13 November to RSVP, after that the remaining seats will be open to members on a first come basis and may be reserved by eVite that will be sent by Constant Contact. As seating is limited please do not RSVP and reserve a seat unless you are sure you can attend.

Please take time to enjoy your family and the Thanksgiving holiday on the 26th or stop by the Post for a plated dinner and be sure to have your strong back at the ready on the 28th to unload those Christmas Trees!! Lastly, I want to thank those who identified a veteran in need and contacted the post with an urgent request that Mr. Handyman mobilized to support in record time building a much-needed ramp. Mr. Handyman continues to serve our veteran community giving back whenever they can, thanks again!!

Situations change. 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/>

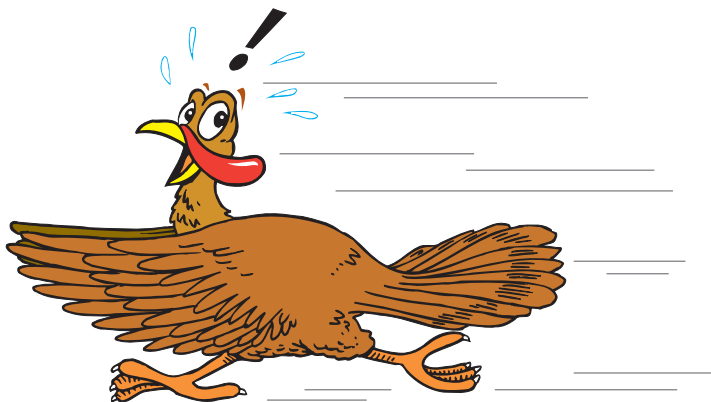
Our **Next Meeting** will be at **7:00 p.m.** on **18 November** at **VFW Post 1503** in the **B Hall** to accommodate social distancing. Please follow CDC guidelines for face coverings and attend only if you are healthy and are not in a quarantine status due to travel or potential virus exposure.

Stay Healthy and Safe!

Tom Levitt

Post Commander

cdrpost1503@vfwva.org





VFW AUXILIARY

Hello Auxiliary 1503 Members ~ It is quite noticeable that November has arrived ~ the weather, the leaves and the clothing are definitely changing!

Welcome to new members William, Michael and Arlynn. As mentioned previously, we will have a drawing at our November meeting (from those who renewed their Annual dues on or before October 31, 2020) for 1 free 'upgrade' to Life Membership. Good luck to everyone & thank you for renewing early.

Our Auxiliary was able to provide lunch for the work crew from Mr. Handyman on the 15th for the 2020 National Day of Service. The newly built exterior handicap ramp will provide much needed mobility assistance for the family.

Drive-through Trunk-or-Treat was a huge success! Youth Chairman Susan and everyone who helped prepare for the day ~ THANK YOU! From shopping for supplies to stuffing goodie bags to clean up ~ Auxiliary members, family members and Comrades pitched in to make the day fun for lots of kiddos! The Prince William County Sherriff's Office was on hand to present Jr. Deputy Badges. Our extra treats were given to Officer Pettegrue to share with the PWC Sherriff's Office Families.

DID YOU KNOW?

During the 2019-2020 year, through our National Programs, we assisted the VFW in the following ways:

- Made nearly 110,000 legislative contacts to help pass or block important bills affecting veterans and their families.
- Awarded more than \$150,000 in scholarships.
- Provided \$5.2 million dollars in goods and services to Veterans, service members and their families.
- Volunteered more than 475,000 hours in VA Medical Centers, hospitals, nursing homes and Veterans homes.
- Awarded more than \$150,000 in scholarships.
- Worked with more than 160,000 youth across America.
- Distributed more than 425,000 U.S. Flags.

Have you seen all the pictures on Post 1503's website? There are A LOT!!

You can find them here ~ vfw1503.org The gallery is located in the 'about' tab.

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

- President Kelli Levitt
- Sr. Vice President Milton Moore
- Jr. Vice President Reginald Garland
- Secretary Betty Gimble
- Treasurer Karla Coker
- Chaplain Glorious Burress
- Conductress Jan Kiecker
- Guard Laura Adamczyk
- 1st Yr Trustee Rebecca Moninghoff
- 2nd Yr Trustee Monika Walczyk
- 3rd Yr Trustee Janell Garland
- Historian Joyce Gibbs
- Patriotic Instructor Marvis Jones



Please remember to update your contact information, as needed, in Malta, www.vfwauxiliary.org or with me for Constant Contact.

To be included on Chaplain alerts, please contact Glorious at auxilliary1503chaplain@gmail.com

If you have not had a chance to check out the renovated horseshoe pits ~ please do! Cyndi, Katie & David did an incredible job staining, HAND painting and adding decals to the backstops. They really look amazing!

NOVEMBER 3rd ~ ELECTION DAY

If you need assistance getting to your polling place, returning your ballot, or any other voting related issue, please reach out to me. Several Auxiliary members and myself are available and happy to help you!

I wish each of you a **Blessed Thanksgiving**, enjoying whatever makes you smile!

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!

Kelli Levitt

President, Auxiliary 1503

itsmekelli@aol.com

703-895-8855

~ UPCOMING EVENTS ~

NOV 7-8 ~ Buddy Poppy Drive

NOV 10 ~ Marine Corps Birthday - Post Canteen 6pm

NOV 11th ~ Veteran's Day

NOV 26 ~ Thanksgiving ~ NO BINGO

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](#)



MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

Patriots:

We had a good turnout at our October meeting and welcomed Patriot Walter Kroptavich and Patriot Julian Morales to our Chapter. We did welcome back long time Patriot of our Chapter, Mac Garner!! Mac lives 70 miles from the Post but comes to see us when he can! We did find out that there will be no services at Quantico on Veterans Day due to the Pandemic but there will be recognition in the VFW Post 1503 on that day by Post Commander, Tom Levitt. We did discuss upcoming celebration of the United States Marine Corps Birthday which will be celebrated on the actual birthdate of Tuesday, November 10th at 1800 (6 PM for civilians and others) in the Post canteen. We will also meet at the Post on Saturday, November 7th at 1400 (2PM) to videotape the guest speaker Carl Ricardson speech and give each Marine a chance to say what the Marine Corps has meant to them (1 minute limit on message). This video will be played, along with cutting the birthday cake and making toasts to all military services in the canteen. One more item is the arrival of the Post Christmas trees that are due to arrive on Saturday after Thanksgiving, November 28th @ 0900. Please call the Post or me before you come down to make sure of truck arrival. We can use all the help possible to unload 400 prettier than a speckled pup Christmas trees. Also, see me about helping sell the trees for the next two weeks after their arrival. Thank you in advance!!

The next [Chapter Meeting](#) is on [Saturday, November 21st](#). 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](tel:703-244-5428)

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!

GOD BLESS AMERICA!!!



Ron Laney
Commander
Semper Fi Chapter 1775



FACILITY HAPPENINGS

Want to start this month's article on a personal note. I've been off work for the past few months with the COVID-19 illness. Getting back to normal is taking a little longer than I expected, but heading in the right direction. Want to thank all for your prayers and support. And a big special thank you, to all our employees who went above and beyond the call of duty in many instances to keep things running smoothly. **THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!**

This year's certainly been a challenge and is continuing to make us adapt to change just about every day from daily operations to planning for what the immediate future holds for us to be back to what was once normal.

As a reminder that when you visit the Canteen, on entrance your temperature will be checked by the bartender on duty or M/A working that day. You will be required to wear a mask or face shield at all times, except when you are eating or drinking. If we see you have forgotten to put your face covering on while you either walk around or any other reason than eating or drinking, we will remind you to please do so, failure to comply will result in your being asked to leave. Thanks for your co-operation.

Sorry to announce that we are forced to suspend WINGS on Saturday nights. **Saturday, October 31st will be the last wing night of this year.** It has become too costly to continue until after the football season when the cost for the Wings will go back to a reasonable amount. We will re-visit this in early 2021.

THANKSGIVING DAY MEAL - Because of the restrictions on serving plated food and the six-foot requirement for social distancing, we will have a different set up this year. Two full meals either TURKEY OR HAM dinner, will be offered from 12PM to 5PM (while food lasts). First come, first served and seating for group's larger than 4 people will usually have to be split with other tables (in the same area). Again, your co-operation is appreciated.

We are trying out a product called CLEAN SHIELD to electrostatically disinfect the entire building. Product is same one used in NFL locker rooms and many colleges. Protection last 30 days. EPA registered and approved to eliminate SARS-COV(COVID-19) and a variety of other things like bacteria, eColi, Listeria in 60 seconds. Treatment supposed to last 30 days.

John Meehan
Facility Manager

SERVICE OFFICER

VA is moving the implementation date of its new direct deposit process from January 1, 2021 to October 13, 2020. As a result, VBA is discontinuing the use of paper based direct deposit forms (VA Form 24-0296 and VA Form 24-0296a). Due to this change, veterans who wish to update their direct deposit information with VA will need to either change their information using VA.gov or contact the VA National Call Center at 1-800-827-1000. Not following these new guidelines could result in a veteran not receiving their benefits in a timely manner due to bad account information.

If you have any questions, comment or concerns, please contact **Tami Brown**, VA/VFW Accredited Claims Consultant at tbrown@vfwva.org

Tami Brown
Post Service Officer



MOC / MOCA

Salutations from the MOC and MOCA! The good works keep on coming as we continue our onward march through the Pandemic era! We had a good October Scratch but would always like to see more of our Cooties at the meetings!

Once again, the visitation restriction policies at McGuire VA Hospital are still in effect. We did receive a wonderful "Thank you" letter for the \$1,000 worth of supplies and gift cards we sent to our long-term stay brethren. We will be working up another video to send to the hospital for Veterans Day. Hopefully, we will also be able to work with some of the groups nearer to the hospital for donating some time and funds for future needs.

The MOC/MOCA Veterans Pen Pal program is moving along nicely. We have begun to send letters out from veterans that have requested pen pals. As always, shoot me an email if you are interested in taking part in this program as we will need to send some names and addresses.

The MOCA/MOC Cornhole Tournament on 17 Oct was a great success! Thank you to everyone who participated... and congrats to our very own wacky Provost Marshall and her partner for winning the tourney! Great prizes were given out to all the winners which were generously donated by our friends at Pitkin's Ace Hardware, Home Depot, and Giant Foods! It was a beautiful day, the food was excellent (Cooties/Cootie Aux do potlucks up right!), and the keg was killed in record time this year! And the best part... we raised over a \$1,000 for our MOC/MOCA veterans' outreach and hospital programs! Hoping we can do another one in the springtime... or even a horseshoe tournament so your faithful narrator can throw some 'shoes around!

While we have not been able to do much with our hospital mission this year, the MOC and MOCA have been staying highly active taking part in Post and community related activities! Bingo, Cornhole, Trunk or Treat, commemorative date observances, flag retirement ceremonies... the list goes on and on! Look pretty much anywhere, and you will find Cooties/Cootie Aux doing our thing!

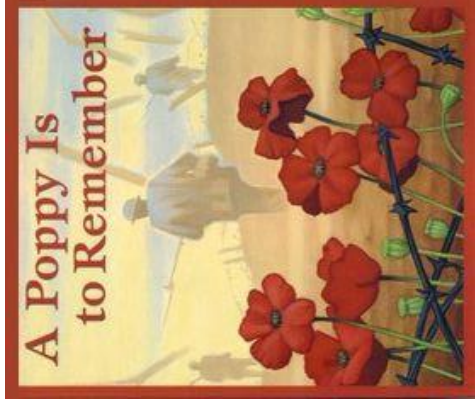
As always, take care of yourself, your families, your friends, and your fellow veterans in this pandemic era. All the best to everyone in these trying times! If there is anything we can do to help, please feel free to contact us and we will do our best to give you all the support we can!

We Are Better Together!

Ben Guinan
MOC Seam Squirrel
guinanbt@gmail.com

Doris Miller
MOCA President
dorisasmussen1951@outlook.com





**BUDDY POPPY
DRIVE**

**VETERANS DAY
WEEKEND 2020**

SATURDAY, November 7, 2020
SUNDAY, November 8, 2020



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.



VFW AUXILIARY

UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

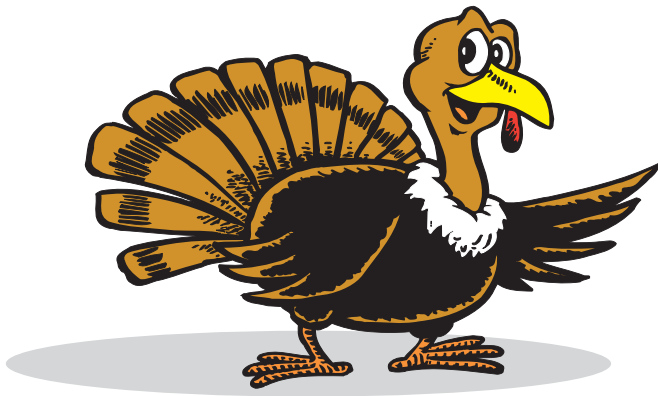
October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Breakfast 9-12:00	2	3 BINGO 7:30	4	5 BINGO 7:30	6	7  Buddy Poppies Breakfast 9:00 - 12:00
8  Buddy Poppies Breakfast 9:00 - 12:00	9	10 USMC Birthday 18:00 in Canteen BINGO 7:30	11  VETERANS DAY MOCA 7:00 pm MOC 7:30 pm	12 BINGO 7:30	13	14 Breakfast 9-12:00
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	21 Breakfast 9-12:00 Purple Heart Mtg.
22 Breakfast 9-12:00	23	24 BINGO 7:30	25	26 <i>Thanksgiving</i>  NO BINGO	27	28 Breakfast 9-12:00 Christmas Tree Delivery
29 Breakfast 9-12:00	30					

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Post 1503

14631 Minnieville Road
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193



Next Monthly Meeting

November 18th

www.vfw1503.org



Happy Thanksgiving