



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

SEP 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,

Our usual back to school preparations have been different this August and activity at the post has been much lower this August then in years past. We all face a new normal during this pandemic and please be respectful of each other's situations. What might be comfortable for you to do during the pandemic may not be the same for others. I borrow this analogy from another 'We are all in the same storm, but we are not all in the same boat'. Above all be safe!!



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.



Despite a slower than normal month we were able to host Congressman Rob Wittman who spoke to our members about this year's Defense Authorization Act line items as well as plans for two new facilities for Veterans in Virginia;

A state facility in Vint Hill and a new Veterans Administration facility that is in final site selection process of either Fredericksburg or greater Spotsylvania County. He finished off his visit by answering direct questions from our members.



The singing group Voices of Service who appeared on Americas Got Talent completed filming of a performance in the hall at our post. The group is comprised of active duty and retired veterans, one of which is a life member of Post 1503. The taped performance will be broadcast during the American Freedom Foundation Summit on 16-17 September, a virtual event in support of Veterans in transition.

This month we will host a Flag Retirement on the 11th of September at 10:00 a.m. in the pavilion. All are welcome!! Later that day we will pause operation in the canteen for a small remembrance and reading for Patriot's Day at 6:00 p.m. We will do a socially distant POW and MIA Day Remembrance on the 18th in the canteen. The 18th is officially the United State Air Force 73rd Birthday ~ a small celebration sponsored by our Chaplain will be held in the canteen on the 19th at 1:00 p.m.

Changes to our plans during the current pandemic environment are situational and should be expected. 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. Stop by our sites and I think you will be impressed with all of the improvements our webmasters have been up to!!

On the Web At: [vfw1503.org](http://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 **16 September** 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](mailto:cdrpost1503@vfwva.org)



# VFW AUXILIARY

Hello Auxiliary 1503 Members!  
Welcome to our new members ~  
Damon, Jeanne, Mark & Andrea.  
Congratulations to Mary on her  
decision to become a Life Member!



Auxiliary and fill us in on the 40,000 sq. ft. Veteran's  
Care Center, which will be located in Fredericksburg.  
The facility, slated to be operational by 2025 will offer  
every element of service. Please visit Rob's website for updates on this and more at  
[www.wittman.house.gov](http://www.wittman.house.gov)

August 1st was the Department of Virginia School of Instruction and Council of Administration  
meeting, in Richmond. Rebecca, Betty and I had a great day of learning, fellowship and lunch with  
our Auxiliary brothers and sisters.

**B i n g O !** ~ Please consider volunteering ~ Tuesday and/or Thursday evening. Contact Betty  
Gimble for detailed information ~ [bjg1503@gmail.com](mailto:bjg1503@gmail.com)

## DID YOU KNOW?

### September Is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

The Auxiliary uses the tear drop as a conversation starter, to promote awareness and show  
concern about the rates of suicides among veterans and military personnel - we want everyone to be  
aware of the unique stresses that face them. Reach out, lend an ear and be a friend to someone in  
need today.

text [838255](tel:838255)  
or chat online at  
[VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat](https://VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat)



UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

Even though restrictions  
remain in place for  
gatherings, we had 17 members and 3 via ZOOM for our August  
meeting. Thank you for attending.

We were  
honored to have  
a visit from  
Congressman  
Rob Wittman at  
our meeting.  
After speaking to  
the Comrades, he  
graciously  
stopped by to  
speak to our



# 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

If you would like to receive alerts, via email from Chaplain Glorious, please contact her at [auxilliary1503chaplain@gmail.com](mailto:auxilliary1503chaplain@gmail.com) If you would like to receive monthly communications, announcements or Chaplain Alerts from the Department of Virginia Auxiliary, please visit the website at [www.vfwauxva.org](http://www.vfwauxva.org) ~ directly on the homepage, or click 'contact us'.

All are invited to participate in the Flag Retirement Ceremony on September 11th at 10:00 am in the pavilion. Great experience for everyone ~ especially children.

**Membership Renewal Information:** For active annual members, renewal is \$20.00 - through the end of October 2020. There will be a drawing for a FREE LIFE MEMBERSHIP at the November Auxiliary Meeting, for those that renew by October 31st. If your membership has lapsed, please contact our Auxiliary Treasurer, Karla.

**Please email or mail renewals or updates to:** Karla Coker, Treasurer • 13212 Trails End Ct. • Manassas, VA 20112 • [kjcoker1503@gmail.com](mailto:kjcoker1503@gmail.com) or VFW Post 1503 ATTN: AUXILIARY • 14631 Minnieville Rd. • Dale City, VA 22193 You may also leave information with a staff member at the Post ~ just ask them to put it in the Auxiliary 'mailbox' in the canteen.

Auxiliary shirts ~ we have several left, if you would like to purchase one, please let me know.

10th District School of Instruction is September 20th. Department President Maggie Myers will be our Representative for the day. Come meet members from 7 other Auxiliaries, learn about the programs we support and much more! Post 1503 'B' Hall 9:00 am. Hope to see you there!

If you have moved, have a new email or phone number ~ please update your information with us! You may do this at [www.vfwaux.org](http://www.vfwaux.org) ~ under Malta Member Login or let me know, I will be happy to assist 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.

**Kelli Levitt**

President, Auxiliary 1503  
[itsmekelli@aol.com](mailto:itsmekelli@aol.com)  
703-895-8855

### ~ UPCOMING EVENTS ~

~~SEPT 5th ~ MOC/MOCA Flea Market ~ Post 1503 Pavilion~~ **CANCELLED**

SEPT 11th ~ Flag Retirement Ceremony ~ 10:00 am

SEPT 11th ~ Patriot Day & National Day of Remembrance

SEPT 16th ~ Auxiliary Meeting ~ Post 1503 'A' Hall 7:00

SEPT 20th ~ Auxiliary 10th District ~ Sol and Meeting ~ Post 1503 'B' Hall 9-3

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 small turnout at our August meeting and hopefully will have a better turnout in September! We had a good turnout at the National Purple Heart Day ceremony at Mount Vernon on the actual Purple Heart Day of Friday, August 7th. The Chapter donated \$250 for the reception and our Patriots enjoyed the day.

Thanks to Patriots Dom Dionne and Matt McGuire for participating in our Chapter Patriot Hank Laney's burial service at Quantico Veterans Administration National Cemetery on the 13th. A special thanks goes to Comrade VFW Post #1503 Chaplain Ed Bennett for providing the religious service!

The next **Chapter Meeting** is on **Saturday, September 19th**. 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

## FACILITY HAPPENINGS

The Canteen has been set up for your safety with social distancing, taking your temperature on arrival and offering a facemask if you do not have your own which are required by all. A reminder, the only authorized times to be without a facemask on is if you are sitting at a table, drinking or eating, whenever you get up to move around for any reason you are required to have your facemask on.

Wooden nickels are now being accepted in the canteen until 30 November 2020 at which time they will no longer be accepted. A new method is being developed by the Board of Directors to compensate volunteers for their service, more information to follow at a later date.

Chicken Wings are back on a trial basis for Saturday nights on 5 September 2020 and again on 12 September 2020. The wing teams will be composed of employees who will do all the preparing in the kitchen and then serve the wings, there will be individuals walking around the canteen to take your orders.

Breakfast is back. Starting Saturday 19 September 2020 for a 2 day trial we will be serving a limited menu breakfast from 0900 - 1200. Social distancing is still required and the table settings will be limited to 4 per table.

For Members only, we will be celebrating Labor Day in the canteen with hamburgers, hotdogs and such on 7 September 2020 from 1200 hours until 1500 hours. There will be a ticket menu that you check off what you want and turn it into the bartender, once the food is ready it will be brought to your table. The meal is free.

Reminder on guests, you are authorized to bring any number of guests into the canteen that you want but if the building capacity is reached guests will be asked to leave to make room for a member. Also, all guests must be signed into the facility and issued a band to wear on their wrist while in the building. The member is responsible for their guest.

John Meehan  
Facility Manager

## MOC / MOCA



Salutations from the MOC and MOCA! Good things are in the works as we keep driving our way through the Pandemic era and some fun stuff is on the way to help us support our mission to support our veterans!

The visitation restriction policies at McGuire VA Hospital are still in affect... but we aren't going to let that stop us from helping our veterans there out! The MOC and MOCA are working on gathering several items of need that we will be sending down to our veterans at McGuire VA Hospital. The items suggested by the hospital reps include: Prepackaged snacks and mini sodas, toothpaste and toiletries, personal laundry detergent, non-alcoholic mouthwash, hairbrushes and combs, condiments (like Texas Pete, bbq sauce, etc.). Both groups will be donating money to purchase these items, but donations from anyone are always welcome. Contact myself or Doris Miller (our emails are listed below) if you would like to donate anything. We are also planning on doing another video to send down to McGuire for Veterans Day... everyone down there thoroughly enjoyed the one we sent them for Memorial Day!

We are beginning a Veterans Pen Pal program based off some information that was sent to us from the Help Heal Veterans organization. If anyone is interested in getting involved with that, please shoot me an email! We have also reached out to some of the local food banks that support homeless veterans and are awaiting responses from them. I envision that we can do things for them like a food drive at the post to donate supplies to the food banks, Cooties volunteering time at the food banks... more to follow as things develop on this front.

Several events and fun stuff are in the works at the post including a cornhole tournament tentatively scheduled for 17 Oct, a horseshoe tournament in the newly refurbished horseshoe pits next to the Pavilion is currently being discussed... info will be provided as plans solidify. Our usual flea markets are in a bit of a limbo state given pandemic related concerns by people that usually set up tables to sell things and the people that usually go to flea markets to browse and purchase things. 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 will do our best to give you all the support we can!

We are better together!

***We Are Better Together!***

**Ben Guinan**

MOC Seam Squirrel  
guinanbt@gmail.com

**Doris Miller**

MOCA President  
dorisasmussen1951@outlook.com





# September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 BINGO 7:30	2	3 BINGO 7:30	4	5 <b>WINGS</b>
6	7 <b>LABOR DAY</b> <small>THE NEW YORK STATE</small>	8 BINGO 7:30	9 MOCA 7:00 pm MOC 7:30 pm	10 BINGO 7:30	11	12 <b>WINGS</b>
13	14	15 BINGO 7:30	16 Auxiliary 7:00 pm Post Meeting 7:00 pm	17 BINGO 7:30	18	19 Purple Heart Mtg.  Breakfast 9-12
20 Breakfast 9-12	21	22 BINGO 7:30	23	24 BINGO 7:30	25	26
27	28	29 BINGO 7:30	30			

# Veterans of Foreign Wars

## Post 1503

14631 Minnieville Road  
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193



*Next Monthly Meeting*

***September 16TH***

[www.vfw1503.org](http://www.vfw1503.org)