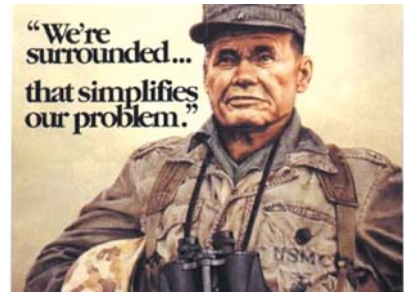




JANUARY 21

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Post 1503



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 and Auxiliary Members,

Happy New Year and welcome 2021!! Our holiday gatherings were smaller and full of different precautions and our usual New Year's bash was canceled. Despite that we are hoping and praying that we are able to see some light at the end of the tunnel in this new year!!

Thanks to all who came out this year and helped Papa Six with our record setting Christmas Tree sale! Our Comrades, Auxiliary and family members continue to astound me at their willingness to step up during these times to make things successful despite our limitations. The Auxiliary hosted a very successful 'Breakfast with Santa' that allowed us to support our community in a safe and fun way - the staff supported us with a special menu that was enjoyed by all!!

At the General Membership meeting this month it was my pleasure to present some long overdue awards from the 2019-2020 program year that were passed down from Department thru District to the Post. Congratulations to Past Commander Thomas Williams Jr. and Quartermaster Tim Brown for being awarded as National-aide-de-camp and Captains of the All-State Team. These are no small accomplishments and none of this happens without the membership who supports recruiting and VFW Programs. My hat is off to all who helped us achieve this great success.

As we look forward into this month I would like to remind you all that we are still remaining as active as possible to support Veterans and Veterans programs. We will continue to recruit and strive to reach our goal for the year. As the nation's oldest major war veterans' organization we should be telling our story with the facts, we are more than our facility and social quarters. Did you know that



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 Carl Richardson
Asst. Service Officer Tami Brown
House Committee Chairman . Joe Saitta
Past Commander . . Thomas Williams, Jr.

we have over 2,000 VA-accredited representatives who have recovered more than \$9.7 billion dollars in VA disability compensation and \$1.4 billion in new benefits in fiscal year 2020?? We provide grants, scholarships, testify before congress and more – for the facts click here: <http://vfwus.org/factsheet>

Please continue to stay safe and remember 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:

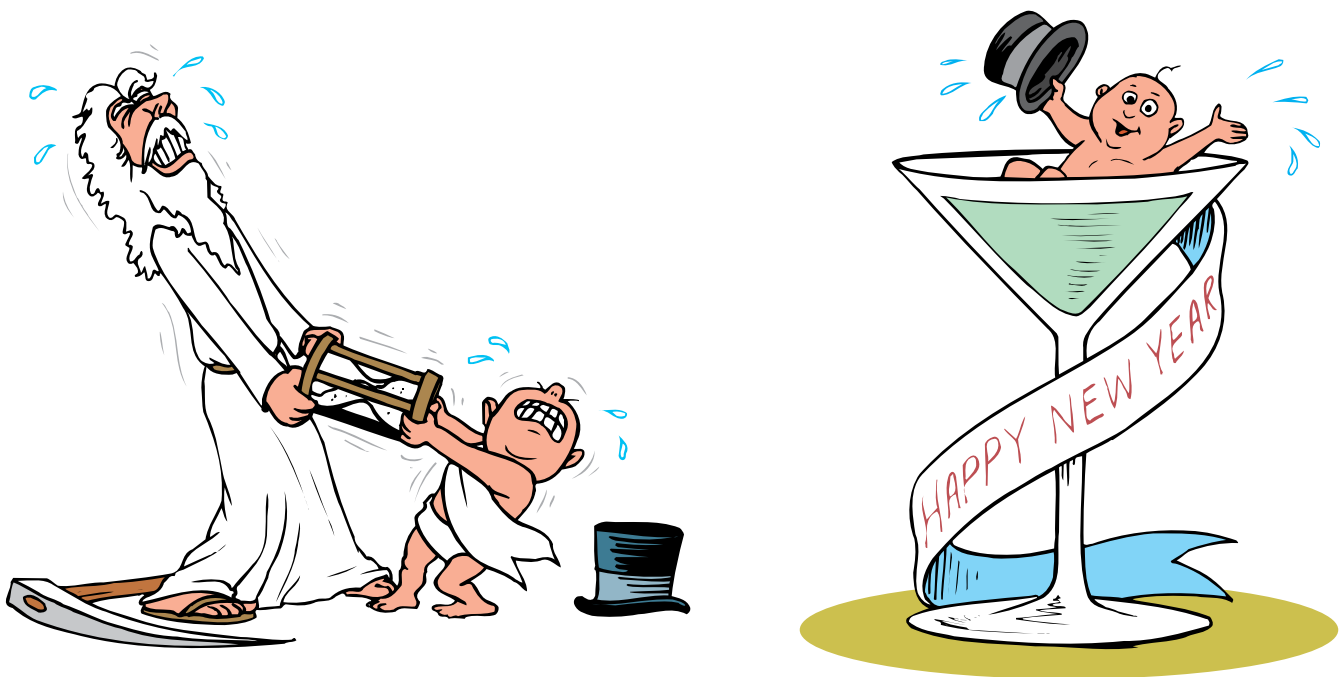
<https://www.facebook.com/Veterans-of-Foreign-Wars-Post-1503-96167622773/>

Our Next Meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on 20 January at VFW Post 1503 in the B Hall to accommodate social distancing and will include a Zoom option for those who cannot attend in-person. 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

RING IN THE NEW!





VFW AUXILIARY

Happy New Year – 2021 Auxiliary 1503! I hope that your Holiday's were memorable and that you were able to spend time doing what you enjoy, with those who make you smile.

Welcome to new members Gerald and Deborah. Thank you to all annual members who paid their dues by December 31st – and to each one who changed their status to Life Member! If you have not yet renewed your membership – please contact Treasurer, Karla Coker ASAP for more information – kjcoker1503@gmail.com

Many Auxiliary members arrived at the post on the 28th of November to help unload, stack and sell Christmas trees. During the 7-day, record breaking selling period, through the cold weather, rain and sore muscles, we were happy to assist the Comrades in this annual event. Special shout out to Monika – who volunteered 6 of the 7 days! THANK YOU to all who helped!

Our 'Breakfast with Santa' turned out to be a huge hit! Quite different in appearance and significantly scaled back than in years past, it was enjoyed and greatly appreciated by all who attended. Debbie, Betty, Nicole, Karla and I served food and visited with the families. Thank you to Santa (Tim Brown) and his helper, the Happy Elf (Sammie Jo) for joining us, for providing smiles and bringing goodies to the children.

Each year, our Auxiliary does a drawing in November for any annual member who paid their dues by October 31st. We forgot! So, we planned to do it at the December meeting, and we forgot again! It was 2020 after all, so no explanation needed!!

DID YOU KNOW?

Joining the VFW Auxiliary is an easy process! However, there are certain criteria to meet eligibility requirements. Members must be citizens of the United States or a United States National, and at least 16 years of age.

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 refer to the eligibility wheel, which shows who may join, under a Service Member who was or is eligible for membership in the VFW. Reach out to family members and friends and encourage them to join!

Auxiliary Recruiting Challenge

During each Auxiliary year – July 1st - June 30th when you recruit 10 or more NEW members (life or annual) – you will earn \$100!

Auxiliary breakfast is returning, and we hope you will join us!! 9:30 on Saturday, January 16th. Please watch for emails, should current indoor dining restrictions change.

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

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!

Cheers to a Happy, Healthy and Rewarding Year, as we work together to grow our organization and serve Veterans!

Kelli Levitt
President, Auxiliary 1503
itsmekelli@aol.com
703-895-8855



~ UPCOMING EVENTS ~

- JAN 9th ~ Winter CoA Mtg - Zoom ONLY
- JAN 16th ~ Auxiliary Breakfast - 9:30
- JAN 18th ~ Martin Luther King Day
- JAN 20th ~ Auxiliary Meeting

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 but good turnout at our December meeting. We were happy to have Mag, French Fry and Augusto join us. They are part of the MOPH Riders Association! Two are members of our Chapter with French Fry going to join our Chapter. We did enjoy our social meeting and toasted the best to Patriots and families and wished for a better year in 2021! I hope everyone had a great Christmas with family and friends! I would like to thank all that helped unload the VFW Christmas trees and especially everyone that helped sell the trees! We set three records on tree sales starting with most in one day at 164 and most in a weekend at 262 and finally all trees sold in 7 days!!!

The next Chapter Meeting is on Saturday, January 16th. 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

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

**GOD BLESS
AMERICA!!!**



Ron Laney
Commander
Semper Fi Chapter 1775

FACILITY HAPPENINGS

Like to start this with wishing everyone a happy and safe New Year. After what we went thru in 2020, can only hope that 2021 has us all return to some kind of normalcy.

CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKET program because of the pandemic, had to to be handled differently this year. On Dec. 12th, we mailed to 91 families (465 total family members) gift cards to Food Lion/Giant Food in amounts ranging from \$50.00 to \$125.00 depending on the size of each family. Want to thank all who donated to this yearly program.

As you know the Governor of Virginia added a few new stipulations to our Phase 3 restrictions. Mainly that no alcoholic beverage shall be sold, consumed or possessed on premises after 10:00 p.m. Also, private gatherings and reservations are now limited to no more than 10 people. This DOES NOT affect our canteen operation. 30% of our rated occupancy would be 119 members/guest allowed at one time in the canteen, dance floor area and fireplace room. Of course, wearing of masks when not eating or drinking and 6 ft. social distancing is also required.

Also, anyone with a fever or symptoms of COVID-19, a positive diagnostic test for the virus that causes COVID-19 in the prior 10 days, or known exposure to COVID-19 in the prior 14 days is NOT permitted into the building. If we are aware of any of these examples you will be refused admittance or asked to leave if you had already been here when we were notified.

As of the date this article was completed, we are still holding off on bringing back our Saturday WING NIGHT and entertainment.

John Meehan
Facility Manager



MOC / MOCA

Salutations from the MOC and MOCA! The good works keep on coming as we continue our onward march through the Pandemic era! The December Scratch and Christmas dinner were a great success!

Approximately 15 Pup Tent 14 MOC/MOCA members, family and friends attended the MOC/MOCA "A Christmas Story" Christmas celebration at Sake Japanese Steakhouse and attended our modified scratch! The show was good as well as the food and everyone enjoyed the White Elephant gift exchange following dinner. While your faithful narrator here could not attend due to personal reasons, I'm very happy that everyone had a good time! Some pics have been added to the article for your viewing pleasure.

Once again, the visitation restriction policies at McGuire VA Hospital are still in effect – but that didn't stop MOCA members from taking MOC/MOCA donations down to McGuire for our veterans! Donated stuff included gift cards, snack foods, personal items, etc. The MOC matched the donation monies with the MOCA with \$480! Well done everyone!

The MOC/MOCA Veterans Pen Pal program is still rolling along. We have been sending out letters and emails to veterans all over the place! As always, shoot me an email if you are interested in taking part in the program.

While we STILL cannot do much with our hospital mission this year, the MOC and MOCA are STILL staying highly active taking part in Post and community related activities. In these unprecedented pandemic times, it is more important than ever that our MOC/MOCA members spend time with their families and friends this holiday season – but we have still taken time to reach out to veterans and our community: several MOC/MOCA members took part in the Kids Christmas Party at the post, yours truly took a bunch of medical supplies over to Joe (Saitta) and Sarah to help him continue his recovery, the MOC donated \$250 to this year's Christmas Food Basket program to help fund the gift cards that were being bought and distributed to needy families in place of delivering the food baskets due to COVID concerns, and the MOC donated \$250 to Pup Tent 17/Post 1177 to support their Sweats for Vets program which helps supply veterans with warm clothing.

I wanted to take a moment to personally thank everyone for your support for me and my Mom in the passing of my stepfather. I cannot express well enough in words how much the love, prayers, and support have meant to us. We would not be doing nearly as well without everyone. Thank you.

From all members of the MOC/MOCA: God Bless you and your families this holiday season! Many happy returns and please enjoy the holidays.

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!

Ben Guinan
MOC Seam Squirrel
guinanbt@gmail.com

Doris Miller
MOCA President
dorisasmussen1951@outlook.com



Jam



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
We are No Longer Accepting Wooden Nickels					1 New Year's Day	2 Breakfast 9-12:00 NO Wings
3 Breakfast 9-12:00	4	5 BINGO 7:30	6	7 BINGO 7:30	8	9 Breakfast 9-12:00 NO Wings
10 Breakfast 9-12:00	11	12 BINGO 7:30	13 MOCA 7:00 pm MOC 7:30 pm	14 BINGO 7:30	15	16 Breakfast 9-12:00 Purple Heart Mtg. NO Wings
17 Breakfast 9-12:00	18 MLK Day	19 BINGO 7:30	20 Inauguration Day Auxiliary 7:00 pm Post Meeting 7:00 pm	21 BINGO 7:30	22	23 Breakfast 9-12:00 NO Wings
24 Breakfast 9-12:00	25	26 BINGO 7:30	27	28 BINGO 7:30	29	30 Breakfast 9-12:00 NO Wings
31 Breakfast 9-12:00						

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Post 1503

14631 Minnieville Road
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193

HAPPY
NEW YEAR!

Next Monthly Meeting

January 20th

www.vfw1503.org



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.'S
BIRTHDAY