



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Post 1503

AUG 25



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 CALL

Along with some record-breaking high temperatures over the last month, our Post received some hot news: VFW Post 1503 was awarded a National Community Service Post of the Year Award for 2025! This means we were ranked as the #1 Community Service Post for the State of Virginia. It is a privilege and honor to be the Post Commander of a Post that demonstrates such high standards in our dedication to our community. This is an award for every member of our Post that reflects the outstanding work we have done, the donations we have made, and the time we spend doing things with and for our community. Keep up the excellent work and we can keep winning this award every year!



POST OFFICERS

Post Commander Ben Guinan
Senior Vice Star Martinez
Junior Vice Robert "Check" Adamczyk
Quartermaster Kurt Hense
Judge Advocate Dan Walczyk
Surgeon Heidi Ortiz
Chaplain Ed Bennett
3 Year Trustee Tom Gimble
2 Year Trustee John Dodge
1 Year Trustee Danny Gibbs
Adjutant Charles "Romeo" Marlowe
Service Officer Raymond Bailey
Past Commander Bernie Carter

A Look Back at July

We began our traditional festivities by once again sponsoring and taking part in the Dale City 4th of July/Independence Day Parade. It was an honor to be part of the crew that represented our Post this year. The feeling of community support generated as we walk and roll along the parade route is amazing. Reciprocating that love and support right back to our community is what the VFW is all about. Our Post Honor Guard led the way for our units followed by yours truly. We were followed next by the Auxiliary. President Debbie Nichols and many Auxiliary members walked, passed out a proverbial 'ton' of candy, and rode in their patriotically decorated truck. A special thank you to the Auxiliary State President Kelly Levitt for joining us for the parade. The Auxiliary was followed by the combined MOC/MOCA Pup Tent Cooties led by MOC Seam Squirrel Tom Levitt and MOCA President Peggy Palomares in a cootie-bug themed truck. Cooties from Pup Tent 19 in Fredericksburg braved I95 to come





up to join us in the parade. Our Post-sponsored Scout troops were well represented with participants from Troops 1919 and 1196G and Cub Scout Pack 1373. It is always great having the Scouts join us for community activities. Finally, Al Woodson and the DMV Criders represented once again with a fleet of muscle rolling on down the parade route. Well done all!

Our 4th of July Open House Community Cookout continued the tradition of having a great time with our membership and our community at Post 1503. The camaraderie, national pride, and community spirit were evident everywhere you looked. For the estimated 500 people that joined us for the festivities, there was food and drinks aplenty, bouncy houses and slides, an arcade trailer, mini-go-karts, cotton candy, shaved ice, and some

crazy people getting dunked in the dunk tank who looked suspiciously like our State Judge Advocate Randy Coker and yours truly. The Josh Allen band provided some great music, and we appreciated their participation at the cookout. A wonderful time indeed and a huge thank you to everyone who helped plan, organize, set up, work, break down, clean up and everything else with this year's cookout. The Post could not do nearly as much as we do without our volunteers. Take some time to thank volunteers when you see them.

Another No Reason Party (NRP) is in the books! This one was a bit more informal than the first one and happened to coincide with my birthday. The food was great, the comradery was excellent, and it was my honor to read the list of the Post members who have passed in the last year. The NRP was another success so we will continue to find times and dates where we can do more of these. And thank you to all for the birthday wishes!

What's Up in August

There will be a large contingent of Post and Auxiliary officers and members heading to Columbus, OH for the 2025 VFW/Auxiliary National Convention. This will be followed by the 2025 MOC/MOCA Supreme Scratch & Meeting. Several of our Cooties will be attending that as well. I will report on any awards that our members receive at either one in next month's newsletter. The 2025 VFW Post 1503 Golf Tourney will be held on Friday, 22 August at the Forest Green Golf Course in Triangle, VA. Info about the tournament can be found on the flyer in this newsletter. We will once again be hosting the rally point for the Band of Brothers USMC Motorcycle Riding Club's Poker Run in support of the Richmond VA Hospital on Saturday, 23 August. They do a great job organizing the run and it is a pleasure to help support that cause. A group of veterans that crewed the USS Lewis B. Puller (ESB-3) will be having lunch at the Post after visiting General Puller's gravesite. They will be at the Post around 1300 on 23 August, so please swing by to greet them if you have time. They are looking forward to visiting our Post. Post 1503 will be hosting VFW District 10's first quarterly meeting on Saturday, 30 August. This will encompass both the VFW and Auxiliary meetings beginning at 1000.

Upcoming Dates: August 2025

- 4 Aug – Coast Guard Birthday (banner in canteen)
- 6 Aug – VFW Riders Meeting, 1900
- 7 Aug – National Purple Heart Day
- 9 -13 Aug – 2025 VFW/Auxiliary National Convention in Columbus, OH
- 14 -17 Aug – 2025 MOC/MOCA Supreme Scratch & Meeting in Columbus, OH
- 17 Aug – 1503 Riders Monthly Ride – front parking lot, 1300
- 22 Aug – Post 1503 Golf Tourney
- 23 Aug – Band of Brothers McGuire Poker Run, 0800

23 Aug – Puller Group Lunch, 1300
30 Aug – 10th District Meeting, 1000

Things to Consider

This summer has seen some extremely warm weather along with thunderstorms galore. Stay vigilant on taking care of yourselves and each other. Hydrate, use sunscreen, wear light clothing, limit/moderate outdoor activities; do whatever you need to do to stay safe and healthy. Be mindful of high-water flood zones and avoid driving into deep standing water.

As always, stay informed on what is going on at the Post in whatever medium works for you: Constant Contact, newsletters, flyers posted in the canteen on the walls, info on the rolling billboard on the big TV, our Post website, announcements on social media, Art and symbols, message sticks... there are plenty of information sources. And remember: **ABR (Always Be Recruiting)!** Recruiting is the lifeblood of our Post and the VFW. Keep up the outstanding work you all do in our recruiting efforts.

Ben Guinan
Post Commander
cdrpost1503@vfwva.org





VFW AUXILIARY

Hello Auxiliary 1503 and Happy August to everyone. I hope you are finding ways to keep cool.

Our July meeting had another great turnout, with 33 members! Thanks to all who came and were engaged. Welcome to our newest members- Patricia, Darryl, Theresa, Karen, Mary, Margaret, Coretta, Leah, Janet and Joseph.

Auxiliary Breakfast on the 19th was another hit with 8 members that attended. Our next Breakfast is August 16th at 9:30 Post 1503, hope to see you there.

We had a blast at the Dale City 4th Parade! Monika, Venee, Jan, Paul, Lois, Karla, Kelli, Peggy, Lionel and myself joined the Comrades, Honor Guard, MOC/MOCA, Purple Heart and the Scouts to hand out our candy to hundreds of children who lined the parade route. Special thank you to John Dodge for being our Chauffer and allowing us to decorate his new vehicle and to Paul, Monica for keeping our buckets full of candy!!

Back at the Post right after the Parade, many Auxiliary members volunteered at the BBQ. There was live music and dancing. It was a great day, and we were proud to support and be a part of it.

Do you have a login for Malta? To access resources, your information and more for the Auxiliary. www.vfwauxiliary.org You can pay your dues, request a replacement membership card and update your contact information.

Are you receiving Department of Virginia Auxiliary Monthly Communications? If not, you can sign up at www.vfwauxva.org

Are you receiving Chaplain Alerts? If not, please email Chaplain Michael at auxiliarychaplain1503@gmail.com

If you have not attended a meeting since joining, please do so!

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 – we are here to help. I look forward to seeing you at our monthly meeting, if not sooner!

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President	Deborah Nichols
Sr. Vice President	Monika Walczyk
Jr. Vice President	Betty Gimble
Secretary	Kelli Levitt
Treasurer	Karla Coker
Chaplain	Michael Alicea
Conductor	Jan Kiecker
Guard	Gloria Wiley
Trustee #1	Brenda Richardson
Trustee #2	Patricia Wootten
Trustee #3	Venee Alicea
Historian	Venee Alicea
Patriotic Instructor	Joyce Gibbs



Debbie Nichols

VFW Auxiliary 1503 President
Debbienichols2023@gmail.com



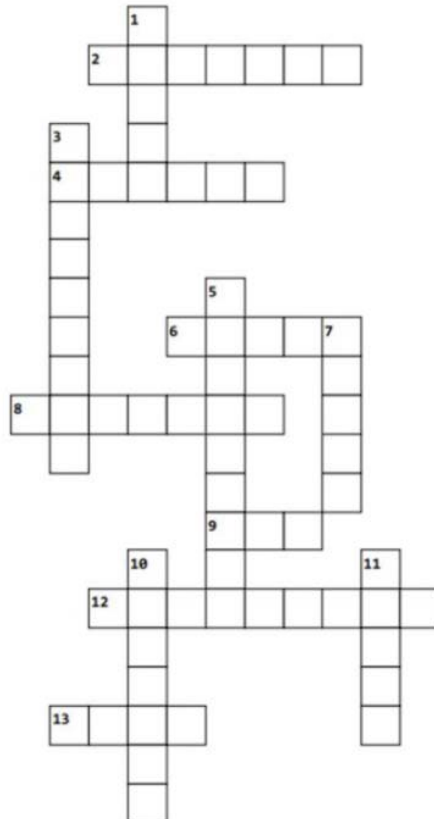
August Word Find

E	S	T	H	U	N	D	E	R	S	T	O	R	M
A	V	I	B	R	A	N	T	S	E	A	K	M	W
H	A	H	B	P	S	N	C	C	R	S	A	S	N
N	C	C	A	E	S	A	R	U	O	C	N	E	R
N	A	T	C	V	S	O	K	S	M	S	E	A	N
S	T	I	K	N	C	P	N	E	S	R	S	I	S
S	I	U	P	R	S	P	E	N	C	I	L	S	S
S	O	S	A	H	R	B	A	S	I	U	R	N	O
E	N	M	C	S	K	A	N	E	O	O	D	B	R
E	N	I	K	S	L	U	B	N	K	S	C	N	I
A	N	W	S	U	S	S	E	R	R	A	C	N	I
U	E	S	U	N	G	L	A	S	S	E	S	N	W
T	S	S	A	S	T	W	S	C	S	S	R	S	E
G	E	C	E	S	T	P	R	T	S	P	S	S	V

SUNSCREEN
SWIMSUIT
CAESAR
THUNDERSTORM
PENCILS
VIBRANT
SUNGLASSES
BACKPACKS
VACATION
SMORES

HEAD GAMES

August



Across

2. Adam's dog or Jennifer's son
4. Marshall's puppy
6. new name for Apttus
8. Privacy SME
9. Subject Matter Expert
12. file we use for sme's
13. month for LOA Password

Down

1. John's pets' name
3. Lillian's new puppy breed
5. million dollar drug
7. Nicole Jones son
10. Jennifer's Dog
11. JC's dogs' name

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

To help anyone who may be looking for new employment opportunities, we created this new monthly article to put out any recent job announcements from various sources. If you have any you might like to add to the next article, please feel free to send them to cdrpost1503@vfwva.org and we will get those added to the announcements.

VFW

If you are looking for a job in the DMV area, please take a look at the job openings posted by clicking on the following link:

[VFW Job openings](#)

You can refer any questions to Ken Wiseman at kwiseman@vfwva.org, and he will happily detail more about the positions if people are interested.

If you are reading the newsletter in paper format, go to the VFW Post 1503 webpage and look for the **Employment Opportunities** page under the **Resources** tab to look to view the job openings listed above.



VFW RIDERS GROUP

The Chapter is growing and we are always looking for riders and supporters to join the crew! Look for the VFW Riders vests and talk to us about it.

For information, check out the **“VFW Riders”** section of **“Programs”** on the post’s website, VFW1503.org



Chapter Motto: So the road has us surrounded – good! Now we can ride in any direction!

YOUR PHOTOS NEEDED

**Comrades this is a newsletter for all of us...
Please submit your PHOTOS of our Post Events to**

<https://vfwus.org/I503pics>

**We are not able to use all photographs submitted to us,
but we appreciate every bit of input!**

MILITARY ORDER PURPLE HEART

National Airborne Day 16 August 2025

On August 14, 2002 President George W. Bush issued the following proclamation:

The history of airborne forces began after World War I, when Brigadier General William Mitchell first conceived the idea of parachuting troops into combat. Eventually, under the leadership of Major William Lee at Fort Benning, Georgia, members of the Parachute Test Platoon pioneered methods of combat jumping in 1940. In November 1942, members of the 2nd Battalion, 509th Parachute Infantry Regiment, conducted America's first combat jump, leaping from a C-47 aircraft behind enemy lines in North Africa. This strategy revolutionized combat and established airborne forces as a key component of our military.

During World War II, airborne tactics were critical to the success of important missions, including the D-Day invasion at Normandy, the Battle of the Bulge, the invasion of Southern France, and many others. In Korea and Vietnam, airborne soldiers played a critical combat role, as well as in later conflicts and peacekeeping operations, including Panama, Grenada, Desert Storm, Haiti, Somalia, and the Balkans. Most recently, airborne forces were vital to liberating the people of Afghanistan from the repressive and violent Taliban regime; and these soldiers continue to serve proudly around the world in the global coalition against terrorism.

The elite airborne ranks include prestigious groups such as the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team, "Sky Soldiers," 82nd Airborne Division, "All American," and the "Screaming Eagles" of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). Airborne forces have also been represented in the former 11th, 13th, and 17th Airborne Divisions and numerous other Airborne, glider and air assault units and regiments. Paratroopers in the Army's XVIII Airborne Corps, the 75th Infantry (Ranger) Regiment and other Special Forces units conduct swift and effective operations in defense of peace and freedom. Airborne combat continues to be driven by the bravery and daring spirit of sky soldiers. Often called into action with little notice, these forces have earned an enduring reputation for dedication, excellence, and honor. As we face the challenges of a new era, I encourage all people to recognize the contributions of these courageous soldiers to our Nation and the world.

Now, therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim August 16, 2002, as National Airborne Day. As we commemorate the first official Army parachute jump on August 16, 1940, I encourage all Americans to join me in honoring the thousands of soldiers, past and present, who have served in an airborne capacity. I call upon all citizens to observe this day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fourteenth day of August, in the year of our Lord two thousand two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-seventh.

– George W. Bush

On August 3, 2009 the Senate recognized National Airborne Day with Senate Resolution 235.

Airborne All the Way!

All Gave Some, Some Gave All!

If you are a Purple Heart recipient and are interested in learning more about our Order, contact me at cdrchapter1775@outlook.com



Yours in Patriotism,
Dom Dionne
Commander • Chapter 1775

MOC / MOCA



Listen up Cooties and MOCA!

The Military Order of the Cootie (MOC) is the “Honor Degree of the Veterans of Foreign Wars” (VFW) and the MOC Auxiliary chartered by the VFW. Founded in 1920, the MOC aims to promote camaraderie and humor among our members while supporting the VFW’s mission. Cootie officers, often referred to as “shavetails”, have titles such as Seam Squirrel, Blanket Bum, and Hide Gimlet. Our meetings are called “scratches”, local chapters are “Pup Tents”, and the national headquarters is “The Supreme”. Our slogans include “Busier than a Bee”, “Closer than a Brother”, and “Keep’em Smiling in Beds of White”, which emphasizes our focus on visiting and entertaining hospitalized veterans.

This month a lot of our Crummy fraternity will be visiting Columbus, Ohio to attend the VFW National and the MOC and MOCA Supreme convention. It should be a Lousy time for all who attend. Since a lot of our Pup Tent shavetails will be attending the conventions, we moved to cancel our August Scratch. The MOCA meeting for August is planned to go on as scheduled. August is a busy month with preparation for Supreme. With that said we are planning our next hospital visit for September to the Richmond, VA Hospital. Hopefully we will be able to get back into the multipurpose room for bingo or other activities to entertain and uplift the patients. More information will be provided as it is available.

July we were ‘Busier than Bees’ participating in the Independence Day Fourth of July Dale City Parade. The Cooties and MOCA did a great job decorating our vehicle, passing out candy and representing our Lousy Fraternity. We had a great time, and we had a reprieve from the oppressive heat and humidity for the day. A couple of the Fred Gnats from Pup Tent 19 came up and joined in the fun and made our work even easier – afterwards we enjoyed some Cootie Milk and sent the Fred Gnats on their way. The Fred Gnats also joined us for our hospital visit to Richmond in July. We served Mission BBQ to almost 50 patients of the Poly Trauma and SCI wards. I can’t thank the Fred Gnats enough for their support and our own Lionel Ward aka “Elvis” for driving us all to Richmond in comfort and style in his RV!!

On a final note, I will mention another one of our slogans is to “Increase and Multiply”. This Fraternity relies on new members in both the MOC and MOCA to sustain the work we are doing. If you are interested in finding out how to become a part of this fraternity just ask.

The next MOCA Meeting is 13 August. Hope to see you there.

Keep Them Smiling In Beds Of White!

Tom Levitt

MOC Seam Squirrel



Peggy Palomares

MOCA President



POST HISTORIAN'S ARCHIVE

Embark on a captivating journey through Virginia's Civil War history with a day trip from VFW Post 1503 in Dumfries, featuring guided tours of Brandy Station and Cedar Mountain Battlefields, complemented by a delightful lunch at Old House Vineyards. This carefully planned itinerary, departing at 8:00 AM and returning by 4:30 PM, offers an immersive experience into two significant battles of the American Civil War.

Morning: Brandy Station Battlefield Tour (9:00 AM - 11:00 AM)

Departing from VFW Post 1503 in Dumfries at 8:00 AM, the approximately one-hour drive along Route 29 brings you to the rolling hills of Culpeper County, home to Brandy Station Battlefield, part of Culpeper Battlefields State Park. Known as the largest cavalry battle in North America, fought on June 9, 1863, this engagement marked the opening of the Gettysburg Campaign. The two-hour guided driving tour, covers key sites such as Fleetwood Hill and St. James Church. Visitors follow a knowledgeable guide in a caravan-style tour, exploring over 1,000 acres of preserved land while learning about the battle's strategic significance and the daring cavalry clashes that unfolded. The tour highlights the bravery of Union and Confederate forces, providing a vivid picture of this pivotal moment in Civil War history.

Lunch: Old House Vineyards (11:30 AM - 1:00 PM)

After the morning tour, a short 10-minute drive takes you to Old House Vineyards, a picturesque estate in Culpeper known for its award-winning wines and scenic views. From 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM, enjoy a leisurely lunch amidst the vineyard's charming ambiance. The winery's tasting room and outdoor seating offer a perfect setting to relax, with options to pair local wines with a selection of artisanal cheeses, charcuterie, or packed lunches. The serene environment, surrounded by vineyards and rolling hills, provides a moment to reflect on the morning's historical insights while savoring the flavors of Virginia's wine country. This lunch is not provided as part of the tour price.

Afternoon: Cedar Mountain Battlefield Tour (1:30 PM - 3:30 PM)

Following lunch, a 15-minute drive brings you to Cedar Mountain Battlefield, site of the August 9, 1862, battle where Confederate General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson faced Union forces under General Nathaniel Banks. This two-hour guided tour, explores the preserved landscape where Jackson's tactical prowess turned the tide against a numerically superior Union force. The walking tour over one mile covers critical sites, offering insights into the battle's role in the Second Manassas Campaign. Hikers and history enthusiasts will appreciate the open fields and trails, with guides detailing the intense fighting and its broader context in the Civil War.

Return Journey (3:30 PM - 4:30 PM)

At 3:30 PM, depart Cedar Mountain Battlefield for the one-hour return trip to VFW Post 1503 in Dumfries, arriving by 4:30 PM. The drive along Route 29 offers a chance to reflect on the day's experiences, from the thundering hooves of Brandy Station's cavalry to the strategic brilliance at Cedar Mountain, all enriched by a delightful interlude at Old House Vineyards.

Why This Tour?

This itinerary, blending historical exploration with a relaxing vineyard lunch, offers a perfect balance of education and leisure. Both battlefields, preserved through dedicated efforts, provide an authentic glimpse into the Civil War's impact on Culpeper County.

Bring comfortable walking shoes, water, food and drink you want to, and a curiosity for history to make the most of this unforgettable journey.

Don Vandergriff

Post Historian

vandergriffdonald@usa.net

Three Key Ingredients of Friendship

I have been blessed with friendships that have lasted for many years, some most of my life, and it is through these friends that God supports and ministers to me. Presently, God has provided a circle of close friends that are a true blessing in my life. It is my experience with these close friends that makes me consider, what are some of the key ingredients to creating and maintaining friendships that endure a lifetime?

“Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.”

Romans 12:10-15

- **Going through difficult and good times together.**

Together, our circle of friends has been through many struggles including personal depression, war, injuries and illnesses, family emergencies, the death of family members, loved ones, including the tragic loss of one of our own. Difficult times are the furnace where true friendships are forged. Likewise, we rejoice during the good times, such as victories over injury and illness, the birth of grandchildren, new jobs and promotions, birthdays, anniversaries, a new home, retirements and relocation. It is through the devotion and love we offer to each other, bearing one another's burdens, sharing the bad times and the good, that we experience friendship as God intended.

- **Sharing fellowship and hospitality together.**

“... contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.”

Forging friendships requires gathering in fellowship, not just holidays and special occasions, but routinely spending time together as part of our daily lives. Those who maintain long-term friendships work at being together, often around a table of food, in each other's homes. Fellowship has always been a key ingredient in creating a lifetime bond of friendship.

- **Forgiving each other.**

No matter how close a friendship grows, there will always be moments when we will fail our friends, or our friends will disappoint or offend us. What destroys the friendship at this point is not the offense or the failure, but rather the inability or unwillingness to forgive each other. In order for our friendships to last a lifetime, we need to expect failures and disappointments in our relationships and be willing and ready to offer forgiveness and to accept it when offered. Friendship grows stronger and deeper and more precious with each cycle of forgiveness and reconciliation. My best friends are those who have forgiven me, and who I have forgiven, and more than once.

PRAYER: Heavenly Father, Almighty God, help us to hold tightly to each other no matter what happens. Help us to remain devoted to one another even when we fail, when we are sick, weak, and unable to keep up. Remind us to rejoice together and be happy when good things happen to one or all of us. Help us to always be there for one another even if it costs us something ... especially if it costs us something.” *Amen*

Ed Bennett

Chaplain

FACILITY HAPPENINGS

We get lots of calls informing us about the sign out front. The Sign automatically shuts down during hot temperatures to protect the controller box inside. We had to replace the box last week because of the heat.

We are working on a new **Friday Night Menu**, which will feature three delicious choices: a **Steak** dinner, a **Pasta** dinner and a **Seafood** dinner. We want to bring dinner customers back on Friday nights.

We are training a few new waitstaff personnel for Saturday and Sunday breakfast. Some of our staff have moved on to prepare for college.

Thanks to the volunteers for coming out and helping with our parties in the pavilion. I would like to host a caribbean afternoon, a Latin afternoon and a Country afternoon in the pavilion. Please give me your input and ideas.



Carl Richardson
General Manager

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE VFW? *The info is out there!*

National level info, news, and programs: <https://vfw.org>

Department (State) level info, news, and programs: <https://vfwva.org/>

District level info, news, and programs: <https://vfwvadist10.org/>

If you are reading the newsletter in paper format, put the URLs above in a browser to go to the sites.

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 previous interviews...

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

VETERAN NEWS

Let no vandalism of avarice or neglect, no ravages of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations, that we have forgotten, as a people, the cost of a free and undivided Republic.

– John A. Logan

VFW News

VFW and Grunt Style Foundation Deliver Over 100 Tons of Relief to Texas Flood Victims

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and the [Grunt Style Foundation](#) have joined forces in an extraordinary partnership, delivering over 100 tons of critical relief to flood-ravaged communities across Central Texas. From Kerrville to Hunt, Comfort to San Saba, and Marble Falls to San Angelo, veterans once again led from the front — this time, not in combat, but in compassion.

For more info on this story, please click [HERE](#). If you are reading this in hard copy, search the title of this article online to read more.

Stay up to date on VFW News by signing up for the VFW Action Corps Weekly update. You can get the weekly updates sent to your email by registering here: <https://votervoice.net/VFW/register>

VA News

Birmingham VA Joins National Effort to Get Unsheltered Veterans Off the Streets

As part of the nationwide Getting Veterans Off the Streets initiative, the Birmingham VA and community partners – along with VA benefits experts from the Montgomery Regional Office – hosted an Unsheltered Veteran Outreach Surge Event on Tuesday, July 29, at the Church of the Reconciler in Birmingham.

For more info on this story, please click [HERE](#). If you are reading this in hard copy, search the title of this article online to read more.

Military News and History

Buffalo Soldiers Would Get Highest Congressional Honor Under Senate Proposal

More than 150 years after the first regiments of Buffalo Soldiers were formed, a bipartisan pair of senators is looking to bestow Congress' highest honor on the storied Black troops.

Sens. Andy Kim, D-N.J., and Tim Scott, R-S.C., will introduce a bill Monday evening that would award the Congressional Gold Medal to the four Buffalo Soldier regiments. The introduction is timed to the day of the 159th anniversary of Congress approving legislation to create what became known as the Buffalo Soldiers.

For more info on this story, please click [HERE](#). If you are reading this in hard copy, search the title of this article online to read more.



2025-2026 COMPETITION

PATRIOT'S PEN AND VOICE OF DEMOCRACY

Post 1503



**"VFW made it possible
for me to go to college."**

- Rachel 2020 Prize Winner

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

OCTOBER 31, 2025

PATRIOT'S PEN

- Open to 6th, 7th and 8th grade students enrolled by the Oct. 31st deadline
- Submit a 300 – 400-word essay
- This year's theme is, **"How are you showing patriotism and support for our country?"**
- National Prize is currently **\$5,000**

ELIGIBILITY

Students must be lawful U.S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent residence (for which the application has not been denied) and intend to become a U.S. citizen at the earliest opportunity.



bit.ly/4aIn91d



bit.ly/4bDvl4k

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY

- Open to students in grades 9-12 enrolled by Oct. 31st deadline
- Submit a 3–5-minute audio and written essay
This year's theme is, **"How are you showing patriotism and support for our country?"**
- National Prize is currently **\$35,000**

<https://scholarsapp.com>



Scholar's App



SCHOLAR'S APP
VERIFIED

VFW POST 1503 ANNUAL TOURNAMENT

IT'S TIME TO PREPARE FOR OUR



GOLF

TOURNAMENT

**General Lewis B(Chesty)
Puller Post-1503**



2025



Lunch will be served @ Post 1503
after the Tournament

Includes: Green Fees, Cart Fees,
Prizes: 1st, 2nd, 3rd Individual Prizes
Closest to the Pin, Men/Woman
Longest Drive & Door Prizes

**Registration
Deadline
August 20,2025**



Forest Green Golf Course, 4500 Poa Annua Ln, Triangle, Va 22172

Check In: 7:30 am

Shotgun Starts: 9:00am

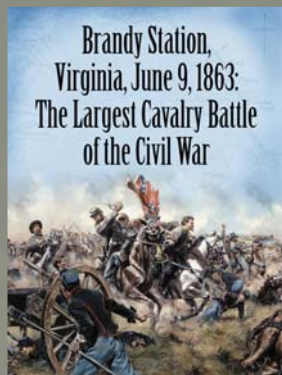
Cost: \$95 Per Player

Friday, 22nd August 2025

Team/Individual Registration at Post-1503 Canteen- See Bartenders
Donor or Sponsor Questions POC : Kurt Hense at 571-232-4447 / George Jordan at 571-414-1635

Mark your calendar and save the date

VFW Post-1503 Historical Guided Tour too Brandy Station and Cedar Mountain Battlefields



A Personal Historical Guide Tour with our very own Comrade of Post-1503 Donald Vandergriff

Award winning author, teacher and speaker

Saturday 27th SEPT, 2025

\$30.00 per person

0800am Depart Post-1503

to Brandy Station (2hrs) then off

(Lunch not provided)

to Lunch in Culpeper (2hrs) then off

to Cedar Mountain (2hrs)

Return to post 1503

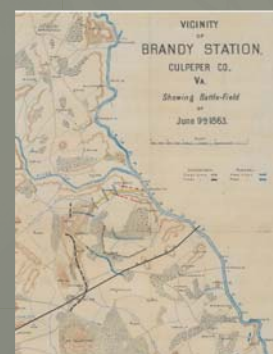
Post by 1630pm

Transportation by DC TRAILS

Save the Date

27th SEPT, 2025

Join in on a day for
some History of the
Virginia Battlefields



Wear comfortable shoes

Food & Alcohol allowed on Bus

The September Newsletter will have all Information on how to purchase tickets

2025 MCGUIRE POKER RUN

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 2025



USMC MOTORCYCLE RIDING CLUB

<https://bandofbrothersusmc.org/event-6065538>

\$25 PER RIDER - \$15 PER PASSENGER

Early Registration Special: \$20 per Rider - \$10 per Passenger

Starts: VFW Post 1503, 14631 Minnieville Road, Dale City, VA

Ends: Fraternal Order of Eagles #4123, Fredrickburg, VA

Welcome: 08:30 - **Welcome Aboard & Safety Brief:** 09:45

First Bike Out: 10:00 - **Award Ceremony:** 15:00

50/50, Raffle Prizes, T-Shirt Sales, Best/Worst Hands



Proceeds Benefit Patients of Hunter Holmes VA Hospital
www.vagov/richmond-health-care



Goodbye July... 
 ALOHA August!

August Entertainment

All DJ's & Bands start at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights

<i>Friday Nights</i>	<i>Saturday Nights</i>
August 1st DJ Big C <i>Dance Party</i>	August 2nd DJ Protege <i>Dance Party</i>
August 8th DJ Danny <i>Dance Party</i>	August 9th DJ Slick <i>Dance Party</i>
August 15th DJ Mario <i>Dance Party</i>	August 16th DJ T-Play <i>Dance Party</i>
August 22nd DJ MoeVibez <i>Dance Party</i>	August 23rd DJ Michael <i>Dance Party</i>
August 29th DJ Steve <i>Dance Party</i>	August 30th DJ Diggy <i>Dance Party</i>



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 DJ Big C FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-8:00	2 DJ Protege Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
3 Breakfast 9-12:00	4	5 BINGO 7:30	6	7 BINGO 7:30	8 DJ Danny FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-8:00	9 DJ Slick Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
10 Breakfast 9-12:00	11	12 BINGO 7:30	13 MOCA 7:00 pm MOG 7:00 pm	14 BINGO 7:30	15 DJ Mario FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-8:00	16 DJ T-Play AUX Brkfst Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
17 Breakfast 9-12:00	18	19 BINGO 7:30	20 Auxiliary 7:00 pm Post Meeting 7:00 pm	21 BINGO 7:30	22 DJ Moe Vibez FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-8:00	23 DJ Michael Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
24 Breakfast 9-12:00 31 Breakfast 9-12:00	25	26 BINGO 7:30	27	28 BINGO 7:30	29 DJ Steve FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-8:00	30 DJ Diggy Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Post 1503

14631 Minnieville Road
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193



Next Monthly Meeting

August 20th

vfw1503.org

