



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Post 1503

DEC 25



General Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller

### Season Greetings from Mom and Me!

I wanted to do a little something different in my article this month to celebrate the season. Based on Clement Clarke Moore's poem, "A Visit from St. Nicholas," I put this together as a way of wishing everyone a blessed, happy, and safe holiday season. Without further ado...



### A VFW Christmas Eve

*'Twas the night before Christmas, and all through the Post,  
Not a creature was stirring, not even a ghost.  
The Touch Tunes were silent, the doors all locked tight,  
Even the staff were done for the night.*

*The membership, weary, had sought out their rest,  
Their service to country having been put to the test.  
And the Post Commander, with gavel and cap,  
Had just sealed the Post for the season's brief nap.*

*When down at the entrance there arose such a clatter,  
I sprang from my chair to see what was the matter.  
Away to the front door, I moved with determined stride,  
To witness the vision that waited outside.*

*The moon on the emblem, the Cross of Malta bright,  
Gave the luster of midday to the deep winter's night.  
When what to my wondering eyes did appear,  
But a veteran in uniform, filled with good cheer.*

*His posture was upright, his bearing austere,  
A symbol of honor, dispelling all fear.  
The US flag was billowing strong, the Post's honored ground,  
A sense of honorable duty in the silence profound.*

*We entered the hall where the charters are kept,  
Where the memory of battles have silently slept.  
He paused by the Honor Roll, noting each name,  
Those who served with distinction and brought righteous fame.*

*He looked at the plaque with the names of the lost,  
And remembered the sacrifice, whatever the cost.  
He nodded a silent, respectful salute,  
And turned toward the door, on a new, quiet route.*

*With a final grave nod, and a movement discreet,  
He departed the Post on the snow-covered street.  
But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight,  
"Good cheer and camaraderie to all, and to all a good night!"*

**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

### A November to Remember

In partnership with the Pi Lambda Lambda Chapter of Omega Psi Phi (OPP) Fraternity, Inc., the Thomas Williams Jr. Memorial Blood Drive went very well, generating 24 units of usable blood. The Red Cross sent a thank you letter to both organizations, specifically citing the excellent help that OPP supplied for the drive. Thomas's family enjoyed Dallas' table dedication ceremony. They sent many thanks to the Post and all the members, Auxiliary, and guests for celebrating and remembering our Past All-American Commander and veteran brother, Thomas Williams Jr. The Masonic Diversity Lodge once again provided an excellent Veterans Day weekend cookout for our Post. A special thank you goes out to the members, Auxiliary, and Scouts, that took part in our Veterans Day Buddy Poppy drive over the Veterans Day weekend. Going forward, signing up for Buddy Poppy shifts will be tracked in an online tool. There were two special celebrations held in the canteen on back-to-back days: the Marine Corps birthday and Veterans Day. The comradery and good times on display during both occasions highlight what a VFW Post is all about. The 250th Marine Corps Birthday Ball, held the weekend after those two fine events, was an outstanding affair. Thank you to the committee, staff, and volunteers who donated their time to set up and execute another superb event. The kitchen staff cooked and served some tasty Thanksgiving meals on Thanksgiving Day, and the Post closed early so that staff could spend time with their families. Tree sales began in earnest on the Saturday after Thanksgiving. If you are reading this newsletter and haven't gotten out there to help, then **NO SOUP FOR YOU!**



## 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  
**Benefits Advisor**..... Will Triplett  
**Past Commander**..... Bernie Carter



### Decking the Halls in December

There will be plenty of good cheer for all in December. The Semper Fi Foundation will hold their annual ornament packing event on Saturday, 6 December. The packages will be sent all over the world to troops that can't be home for the holidays. If you have some time to help or at least to go check out the impressive operation the Semper Fi crew puts together, they will be in the Hall all day starting at 0800. Several of our Post officers will be headed up to the District 10 meeting on the same day. I plan to get back to check out the Semper Fi activity in the afternoon. We will have an observance of Pearl Harbor Day in the canteen on

**Over ➡**



Sunday, 7 December at 1500. There will be a Movie Night Takeover of the canteen on Tuesday evening, 9 December at 1930. We have a shiny, new content license that allows us to show pretty much any movie we want for our Post membership, their families, and their guests. This event is basically a test of concept kind of thing, but we believe this will add another viable entertainment option for the Post. Feel free to contact me or our IT guru Check if you have any questions or ideas about this new entertainment capability we are bringing to the Post. The MOC and MOCA will be having their holiday dinner on Wednesday, 10 December. There will be plenty of good food and hijinks at that one. If you are interested in knowing more about the MOC/MOCA, talk to those crazy Cooties in the distinctive red shirts you see around the Post. I'll be hosting our annual Post Officers' Holiday dinner on Saturday evening, 13 December. These Post members and their families do so much work behind the scenes, and this is a good way to let them know how much I appreciate all they do. We will have the Space Force flag/banner posted in the canteen to mark the Space Force's birthday on Saturday, 20 December. The MOCA will be hosting another bake sale in the Bingo Hallway on the evening of Tuesday, 23 December. I imagine there may be some holiday flare to the goodies they will be selling to do some fundraising for our hospital programs. The Post will be closing at 1700 on Christmas Eve so that the staff can spend time with their families. Per our standing tradition, the Post will be closed on Christmas Day. The New Year's Eve celebration at the Post will look a little different this year but will be a grand time once again. Details for the event are available on the New Year's Eve flyer.



### Upcoming Dates - December 2025

Mon Dec 1 – [until trees are sold out] – Christmas Tree sales continue – Pavilion, 1500-2000 (during weekdays)

Wed Dec 3 – VFW Riders Meeting

Sat Dec 6 – Semper Fi Foundation ornament packing – Hall, 0800-1600

Sat Dec 6 – District 10 Meeting – Post 8241, 1000

Sun Dec 7 – Pearl Harbor Day observance – Post Canteen, 1500

Tues Dec 9 – Movie Night – canteen, 1930

Wed Dec 10 – MOC/MOCA Holiday Dinner – A Hall, 1900

Sat Dec 13 – Post Officers Christmas Dinner – B Hall, 1800

Sat Dec 20 – Space Force Birthday (flag in canteen)

Sun Dec 21 – Auxiliary's Breakfast with Santa – A Hall, 1000

Sun Dec 21 – I503 Riders Monthly Ride – front parking lot, 1300

Tues Dec 23 – MOCA Bake Sale – Bingo Hallway, 1630

Wed Dec 24 – Christmas Eve, **Post closes 1700**

Thurs Dec 25 – **Christmas, Post Closed**

Wed Dec 31 – New Year's Eve celebration, A-Hall and Canteen, see flyer for details

### Things to Consider

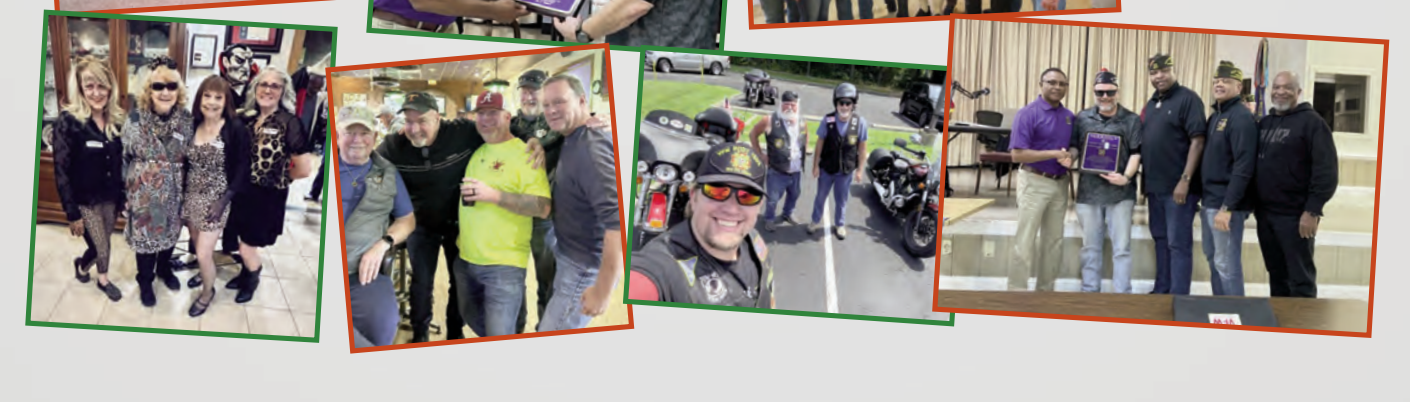
While this time of year is considered the season of giving, we as a part of the VFW are committed to giving year-round. We are no strangers to charity, service, and taking care of people. In this season of giving, let us continue to lead the way in our service to our community and to our veteran brethren.

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, phone booths, parchments... 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](mailto:cdrpost1503@vfwva.org)











# HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



# VFW AUXILIARY

Happy December...  
Greetings Auxiliary 1503!

Great turnout for our November meeting 26 members attended!!  
Welcome to our new members.



at [Auxiliarychaplin1503@gmail.com](mailto:Auxiliarychaplin1503@gmail.com)

As always if you have any questions, concerns, 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.

**Debbie Nichols**  
VFW Auxiliary 1503 President  
[Debbienichols2023@gmail.com](mailto:Debbienichols2023@gmail.com)  
703-975-6001

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

The Auxiliary Breakfast was lots of fun with 9 members joining us to enjoy a special time together. We will meet again December 20 @ 9:30 at Post 1503. Small gift exchange and cookie exchange, bring 3 dozen cookies to exchange cookies with the members who participate.

We continue to have a need for Program Chairman. Please let me know if you are interested.

To sign up for Auxiliary 1503 Chaplain alerts: please contact Chaplain Michael

## 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





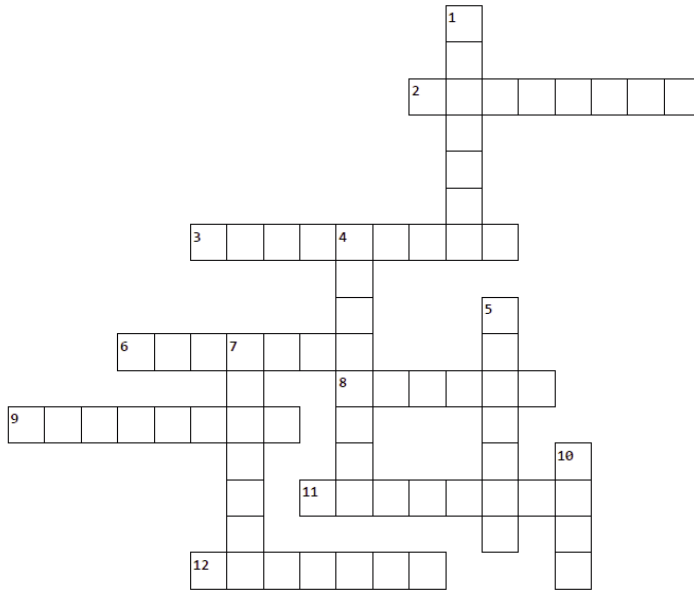
*Come Enjoy a Buffett Breakfast with  
Santa and Mrs. Claus!*

*VFW & Auxiliary 1503  
Children & Families*

*SUNDAY DECEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup>*

*10:00am - 'A' HALL*

## Holiday Season



### Across

2. Another word for the Festival of Lights
3. The day commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ
6. This half-goat character punishes bad children
8. The bird eaten on Christmas
9. Decorations placed on the christmas tree
11. The animal that pulls Santa's sleigh
12. The way in which Santa enters the house

### Down

1. An annual celebration from Dec 26 to Jan 1
4. Occurs twice a year, the next is December 21st
5. A four-sided spinning top
7. Olive oil is used to light its lamps
10. This plant is decorated during Christmas

# HEAD GAMES

## December Word Find

Y G L M A L X F A J M U D N T C B J Q P  
L F W A Y S E G O O Z Y X J T Y T I Y V  
E G O Y D A V P H D D R R W Z L C S F D  
P N C F J M W Z W G M K E A D J Y T T C  
E A D Z S T K U D I I Q Q P H N F D P N  
A R N Z Q S D J C E V Q W Q P I P G D J  
C G M A X I Y T I R A H C M V A N G D F  
E S X H S R O J O P E H Y I A H Z E D A  
H X P C L H F J V O R J N S P Q Q V J N  
A X E O T C O B R Q Q T J T O C S J P S  
N A L N M Y Q T D X R K W L P T I O N R  
U G V S O D O F A Y J T Y E B N C X G O  
K E X U P G A U J A E V W T V R T W X A  
K T S G S M X G S N Z C U O G E A E Z K  
A K J X I H M Y Q A N N Y E G I E Q D C  
H F W L L U P Z K H J E A N C T V E Q P  
B S Y G F N I T V Q B B E W T V R I B N  
D D I L Q T J N X F Q Y S J K R Q G N N  
D P Q U C K V H D T D J R B R U J D K G  
F E S T I V E U B O J F P V Q M D F Z O

1. Christmas
2. Hanukkah
3. Kwanzaa
4. Peace
5. Family
6. Charity
7. Giving
8. Festive
9. Joyous
10. mistletoe



# MILITARY ORDER PURPLE HEART

## The US Invasion of Panama OPERATION JUST CAUSE



In the late 1980s, relations between the United States and General Manuel Noriega, Panama's de facto military dictator and a former CIA asset, deteriorated significantly due to his involvement in drug trafficking, racketeering, and the suppression of democracy. Noriega had annulled the results of the May 1989 general election, which was widely believed to have been won by opposition candidate Guillermo Endara. President Bush called on Noriega to honor the will of the Panamanian people, started reinforcing the US bases in the Canal Zone, and increased training and other activities to apply pressure on Noriega.

On December 15th, the Panamanian general assembly passed a resolution declaring that a state of war existed between Panama and the US. This led to escalating clashes with US forces in the region, including the killing of an off-duty US Marine officer, that brought tensions to a head.

The operation began in the early hours of December 20, 1989, involving a force of more than 27,000 personnel from the US Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard participated. US Army Rangers, Navy SEALs, and the 82nd Airborne Division led the assault on key targets and military installations throughout Panama City and its surroundings and met scattered resistance from the Panamanian Defense Forces (PDF). The invasion was swift and the PDF was quickly overwhelmed, with major organized resistance effectively crushed by Christmas Eve. Guillermo Endara was sworn in as the new president of Panama on a U.S. military base shortly after the invasion began.

Noriega eluded immediate capture and sought refuge in the Vatican's diplomatic mission in Panama City. On January 3, 1990, Noriega surrendered to US authorities and was flown to the United States to face trial. In 1992, he was convicted in a U.S. federal court on eight counts of drug trafficking, racketeering, and money laundering, marking the first time a U.S. jury had convicted a foreign leader of such charges. He was sentenced to a lengthy prison term, and after serving time in the U.S. and later being extradited to France and then Panama, he died in 2017.

23 US service members, three US civilians were killed, and 325 US service members were wounded. Estimates for Panamanian casualties ranged from 516 (314 soldiers, 202 civilians) to several thousand, according to some human rights groups. 2 Navy Crosses, 13 Silver Stars, 130 Bronze Stars, and 248 Purple Hearts were awarded after Operation Just Cause.

***All Gave Some, Some Gave All!***

**Dom Dionne**

Commander • Chapter 1775

**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.

## MOC / MOCA



Listen up Cooties and MOCA!

How can December be here already? It feels like Summer just ended. As we all prepare for the Holidays, let us remember that the Cootie Mission is to Keep 'em Smiling in Beds of White. We will be visiting the VA Hospital in Richmond on 13 December after meeting for breakfast at the post. ALL are welcome at any hospital visit, and the patients always appreciate seeing visitors. If you are interested in attending Cootie Christmas at the VFW National Home, please see our communications or visit the Supreme website for more details at <https://lotcs.org/>.

This month's MOCA Meeting and MOC Scratch will be very short to accommodate our Crummy Christmas Party and dinner. We will be doing a \$25 white elephant gift exchange for those who wish to participate. It is always interesting to see what "creative" items show up. Looking forward to seeing everyone and enjoying our little holiday celebration!

This past month we attended Tomb Trek and were joined by Lousy Cooties from all over the Grand of Virginia and across the country from the Supreme (National) to honor veterans by laying wreaths at the Tomb of the Unknowns and the Argonne Cross. We marked the first time attendance of some members of our Crummy Fraternity with frivolity and a few sips of cootie milk. The MOCA honored one of their own at their November meeting. Congratulations to Rebecca Moninghoff who was recognized at their MOCA meeting for her donation this past year of multiple units of blood. During the MOC Scratch we advanced one of our Lousy Cooties through the seams of our Pup Tent to a Lousy Atom during some degree work.



We were extremely sad to learn of the passing of the Grand of Virginia Cootie and Past Department Commander Mitch Rubenstein. He passed suddenly and unexpectedly a day after returning from his first ever Tomb Trek. We take solace in the time we had with our fellow Cootie and friend and of the frivolity and joy we shared in our Crummy fraternity. It is a loss that we will continue to feel for some time. We continue to keep his family and friends in our thoughts and prayers during their time of mourning.

**The next MOC/MOCA Meeting is 10 December. Hope to see you there.**

***Keep Them Smiling In Beds Of White!***

**Tom Levitt**

MOC Seam Squirrel

**Peggy Palomares**

MOCA President

# MOCA Bake Sale

**Dates: November 25th and  
December 23rd**

**Time: 4:30pm until  
everything is sold**

**Place: Back Hallway of VFW Post 1503**





## POST HISTORIAN'S ARCHIVE

Fellow veterans and history enthusiasts of VFW Post 1503, as we approach the holiday season, December offers a poignant opportunity to reflect on our nation's past amid the winter chill. From Revolutionary War triumphs to solemn remembrances, the Virginia, Maryland, and D.C. region brims with events that honor the sacrifices of those who came before us. As your post historian, I've curated a concise list of accessible, veteran-friendly outings – many free or low-cost – for the month ahead. Bundle up, gather your comrades, and step into living history. These experiences not only educate but also strengthen the bonds of service we all share.



**December 6-7: Battle of Great Bridge Reenactment** *Location: Great Bridge Battlefield & Waterways History Park, Chesapeake, VA (1.5-hour drive from Alexandria).* Commemorate the 250th anniversary of this pivotal 1775 Revolutionary War clash – often called “Virginia’s Bunker Hill” – with narrated reenactments, encampments, artisan demos, and kids’ activities. Witness Patriot forces repel the British in a short but fierce battle that secured Virginia’s independence. Free admission; food trucks on-site. A stirring reminder of early American resolve.

**December 6: Annapolis Historic Day Trip** *Location: Annapolis, MD (45-minute drive from D.C.).* Join a guided exploration of Maryland’s colonial capital, site of the Confederation Congress and temporary U.S. capital in 1783-84. Tour the State House where George Washington resigned his commission on December 23, 1783, and the Treaty of Paris was ratified, ending the Revolution. Includes museum visits and lunch in a historic tavern. Private tours ~\$150/person; book via Hipstoric DC. Ideal for pondering leadership in victory.

**December 12-13, 19, 22-23: Mount Vernon by Candlelight** *Location: George Washington’s Mount Vernon, Alexandria, VA (20-minute drive).* Stroll the estate aglow with 18th-century lanterns, enjoying holiday music, sweet treats, and tales of Washington’s Yuletide traditions. Tours highlight his role as a unifying figure post-Revolution. Tickets \$33-\$41 (members discounted); evenings 5:30-8:30 p.m. A serene nod to the Father of Our Country, perfect for quiet reflection.

**December 13: Wreaths Across America at Arlington National Cemetery** *Location: Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA (10-minute drive).* Honor fallen heroes by placing wreaths on over 400,000 graves during this annual rite, starting at 8 a.m. with a noon ceremony. Sponsored by volunteers nationwide, it embodies “Remember, Honor, Teach.” Free to participate (register online for updates); expect crowds – arrive early. As veterans, this is our sacred duty, echoing Pearl Harbor’s legacy just days later on the 7th (self-guided visits encouraged).

**December 20-21: Christmas Illuminations at Mount Vernon** *Location: George Washington’s Mount Vernon, Alexandria, VA.* The estate sparkles with lights, lantern paths, and Potomac views, featuring historical reenactments and a visit from a four-legged “Mount Vernon resident” (think Washington’s hounds). Blends 18th-century festivity with modern wonder. Tickets \$41/adult; 5:30-8:30 p.m. End the month with Washington’s vision of peace after war.

These outings align with America’s 250th birthday celebrations, emphasizing themes of liberty and service dear to us at Post 1503. Many sites offer veteran discounts – mention your status. For carpooling or group rates, contact me at [vandergriffdonald@usa.net](mailto:vandergriffdonald@usa.net). Let’s turn history’s pages together, ensuring the stories of valor endure. Semper Fi, Hooah, and seasons’ greetings.

**Don Vandergriff**

Post Historian

[vandergriffdonald@usa.net](mailto:vandergriffdonald@usa.net)

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

### Finding Peace During the Holidays

Many holiday greeting cards includes the words peace, love and joy. Yet with all the expectations of the holiday season we find ourselves becoming overwhelmed with all the activities and the physical and emotional exhaustion these activities produce. There are meals to plan and cook, cleaning the house for guests, buying and wrapping presents just to name a few.

But does it have to be this way? Can we find peace amid the ever-increasing to-do list and the deadlines? The answer is yes – but there's a catch. God invites us to slow down or even stop, to breathe and rest in his peaceful presence. The catch is do we accept his invitation?

“Be still, and know that I am God.” This verse from Psalms 46:10 is like a quiet whisper in our ears. God wants to ease our anxieties and is encouraging us to quiet our minds and simply trust him. This passage also serves to remind us that no matter what is happening around us, God is our refuge and strength. Like a shelter in the middle of a storm, we can be safe in the assurance that we can find peace through God during the hectic holiday season and throughout the year.

So, when the house is loud, nothing is running on schedule and our hearts and spirits are tired, we need to take that deep breath, be still, and let God renew our strength and find peace.

**PRAYER:** Heavenly Father, Almighty God, during the holidays, I will remember that you are God, and my refuge when things are hectic. Father, thank You for the peace you bring to my life both in times of joy and in times of challenge. Help me to always maintain a heart filled with gratitude, not just on the special days of the year, but every day of my life. Amen



**Ed Bennett**  
Chaplain

## YOUR PHOTOS NEEDED

**Send us your photos so we can use them around the Post... Please submit your PHOTOS of our Post Events to**

**<https://vfwus.org/1503pics>**

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





## FACILITY HAPPENINGS

November has come and gone so fast, and now we are getting ready to decorate Christmas trees. Will be gradually swapping out bar stools around the bar for new bar stools. It will be a slow process but we will get it done. As a reminder going into the holidays we are still on fire watch and we will continue to monitor the amount of members guests in the canteen. The Bingo Window is still open, and starting January 1st we will not allow players to bring food into the Bingo Hall anymore.

Brenda and I wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



**Carl Richardson**  
General Manager

## 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](http://VFW1503.org)

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



## VETERAN NEWS

*"For what avail the plough or sail,  
Or land or life, if freedom fail?"*

– Ralph Waldo Emerson

### VFW News

#### **VFW Will Not Stay Silent While America's Heroes are Dragged Through the Mud**

The following statement is from the VFW National Commander Carol Whitmore:

The Washington Post has decided that America's veterans, those who have fought, bled and sacrificed for this nation, are the new villains of these last couple of weeks. Their recent reporting, suggesting that veterans are filing "dubious" or "fraudulent" disability claims to milk the VA system, is nothing short of disgraceful. It's a smear campaign against the very people who have given this country everything it has asked for, and more.

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

#### **New scam: VA Benefits overpayment**

Clever scammers are targeting Veterans, surviving spouses and family members who receive VA benefits. They pretend to be official VA representatives and use official communication channels to demand repayment for alleged benefits overpayments. Fraudulent letters, emails and texts often include fake VA letterheads and logos, making it difficult to distinguish genuine VA communications from scams.

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

#### **Hero to the End: Marine Corps Veteran Killed Rescuing Coal Miners**

The Marine Corps family lost one of its own when veteran Steven M. Lipscomb, who had survived a roadside bomb while serving in Iraq, was killed trying to save a crew of coal miners in West Virginia.

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.



*Merry Christmas*



# *New Years Eve A-Hall*

**Banquet Buffet Dinner**  
6:00–8:30 PM – \$25

**New Years Eve Celebration**  
Finger Foods, Music, Champagne at Midnight  
9:00 PM–12:30 AM – \$15

**Both Events – \$35**

[vfwus.org/nye](http://vfwus.org/nye)

Scan for Details





**UNITY CUP & PARS OR BETTER GOLF  
GROUP  
HOSTING A MARINE  
TOYS FOR TOTS  
DRIVE AND CHARITY DONATION EVENT**

**LOCATION: VFW POST 1503  
14631 MINNIEVILLE RD, DALE CITY VA 22193**

**DATE/TIME: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2025  
6:00-10:00PM**



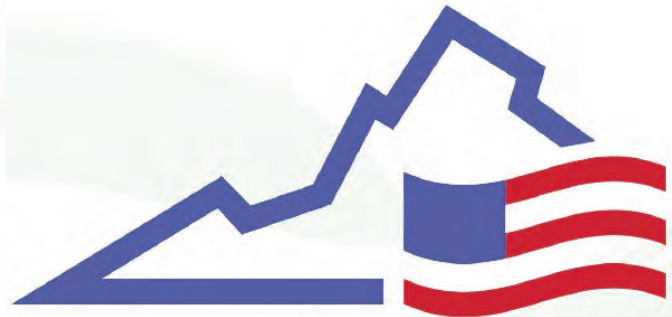
**DJ, CHRISTMAS KARAOKE & DOOR PRIZES**

**“Toys for ages 6-12” and toys should be unwrapped.**



Purchase via Amazon and it will be delivered directly to  
this post





**Virginia Department of Veterans Services**  
[www.dvs.virginia.gov](http://www.dvs.virginia.gov)

To continue to provide veterans with access to Certified Service Representatives for any benefits and claims assistance, the VFW Department of Virginia has created a new partnership with the Virginia Department of Veterans Services. Beginning in September 2025, VFW Post 1503 will host an itinerant site to provide a location for veterans to meet in-person with a DVS Veterans Services Representative (VSR) on the 1st and 4th Wednesdays of each month

The DVS VSR assigned to our location is George Johnson.

Until the online registration process is fully in place, appointments to meet with Mr. Johnson at VFW Post 1503 must be made by contacting him directly via email at:

[George.Johnson@dvs.virginia.gov](mailto:George.Johnson@dvs.virginia.gov)

**To visit the site for the  
Manassas DVS website  
for additional info, use  
this QR Code:**





# COMBAT TESTED GAMING

By the **VFW**  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

## THE VFW'S INAUGURAL GAMING LEAGUE EXCLUSIVELY FOR VETERANS.



Join the  
community!



In just half a year, Combat Tested Gaming (CTG) has become the fastest-growing veterans gaming community in America. We are approaching 2,000 veteran gamers on our Discord server and streaming gameplay on our Combat Tested Gaming Twitch channel. Join our Discord community to connect with other veterans and active duty server members who play your game of choice! Subscribe to our Twitch and YouTube channels to watch our gameplay and experience the thrill and camaraderie of our gamers.

### GAMES

- Rocket League
- Call of Duty
- Call of Duty: Warzone
- World of Warcraft
- Valorant
- Madden
- MLB: The Show
- Rainbow Six Siege
- NBA 2K
- Helldivers 2
- Apex Legends
- Fortnite
- League of Legends
- The Finals
- EA Sports FC
- And more! We are adding games consistently.

### IMPACT OVERVIEW

**1,500+**  
Veteran  
gamers.



**DEDICATED VFW  
SERVICE  
OFFICER**



answering VA benefits  
questions daily.

**4 VFW  
POSTS**



have leveraged CTG to start  
gaming nights – one building  
a gaming room to support  
student veterans.

**5 VETERANS'  
LIVES SAVED**



during crisis by  
using connections  
made through CTG.

CTG has quickly succeeded in reaching its early objectives. Now, as we look to the future, we set our sights on becoming THE leader in the veteran gaming space by continuing to promote the program and through partnering with a veteran-owned company which specializes in building the gaming infrastructure needed to support our growth and long-term success.



**INTEREST SIGN-UP BOOK IN THE CANTEEN**

**5-NIGHTS**

# ROYAL CARIBBEAN



Aug 01 - Departing Baltimore  
Aug 02 - Cruising at sea  
Aug 03 - Bermuda  
Aug 04 - Bermuda  
Aug 05 - Cruising at sea  
Aug 06 - Return to Baltimore

Inside stateroom: \$987pp

Oceanview: \$1148pp

Balcony: \$2351pp

**Offers military discounts &  
flexible payment schedule!**



Call for booking!  
**571-659-4633**



[www.onestoptravelplanners.com](http://www.onestoptravelplanners.com)

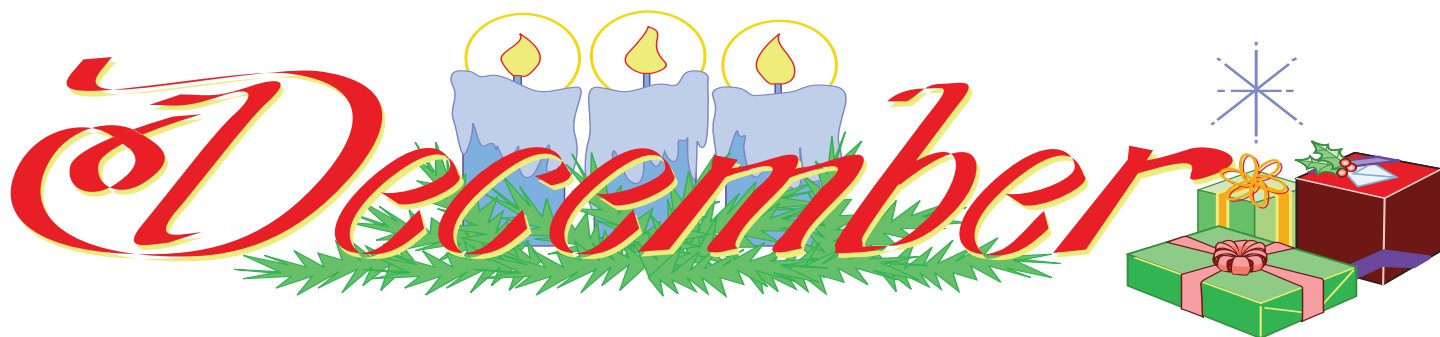
# December Entertainment

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

<i><b>Friday Nights</b></i>	<i><b>Saturday Nights</b></i>
<b>December 5th</b> <b>DJ Michael</b> <i>Karaoke &amp; Dance Party</i>	<b>December 6th</b> <b>DJ Protege</b> <i>Dance Party</i>
<b>December 12th</b> <b>DJ Danny</b> <i>Karaoke &amp; Dance Party</i>	<b>December 13th</b> <b>DJ Mario</b> <i>Dance Party</i>
<b>December 19th</b> <b>DJ Big C</b> <i>Dance Party</i>	<b>December 20th</b> <b>DJ T-Play</b> <i>Karaoke &amp; Dance Party</i>
<b>December 26th</b> <b>DJ Steve</b> <i>Dance Party</i>	<b>December 27th</b> <b>DJ MoeVibez</b> <i>Dance Party</i>







Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 BINGO 7:30	3	4 BINGO 7:30	5 DJ Michael FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-8:00	6 DJ Protege Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
7 Breakfast 9-12:00	8	9 BINGO 7:30	10 MOCA 7:00 pm MOC 7:00 pm	11 BINGO 7:30	12 DJ Danny FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-8:00	13 DJ Mario Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
14 Breakfast 9-12:00	15	16 BINGO 7:30	17 Auxiliary 7:00 pm Post Meeting 7:00 pm	18 BINGO 7:30	19 DJ Big C FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-8:00	20 DJ T-Play AUX Brkfst Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
21 Breakfast 9-12:00	22	23 BINGO 7:30 MOCA BAKE SALE	24 Christmas Eve Post Closing Early 5:00 Kitchen 3:30	25 Christmas Post Closed	26 DJ Steve FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-8:00	27 DJ MoeVibez Breakfast 9-12 WINGS 6:00-8:00
28 Breakfast 9-12:00	29	30 BINGO 7:30	31 New Years Eve			

# Veterans of Foreign Wars

## Post 1503

14631 Minnieville Road  
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193



**Next Monthly Meeting**  
**December 17th**

**vfw1503.org**

## VFW POST 1503 CONCEALED CARRY CLASS

RECEIVE YOUR  
TRAINING  
CERTIFICATE  
NEEDED TO  
OBTAIN A  
CONCEALED  
WEAPONS



UTILIZING A LASER-  
BASED INDOOR  
RANGE: NO  
FIREARMS/AMMO.  
EVERYONE SHOOTS  
THE LASER PISTOLS!

**Saturday, January 17, 2026 10:00 AM - 12:00 AM \$65.00**

CLASS SATISFIES THE TRAINING REQUIREMENT FOR A CONCEALED HANDGUN PERMIT IN ALL VIRGINIA JURISDICTIONS & INCLUDES LECTURE  
WITH LASER FIREARMS LIVEFIRE, UTAH CERTIFICATION AVAILABLE FOR ADDL \$40

**CALL 804-484-9694 FOR MORE INFORMATION**

*The course presenter is Glenn Blandford. Mr. Blandford holds numerous weapons instructor certifications from the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) as well as the National Rifle Association (NRA) and has served as a police officer, investigator, police academy instructor and firearms unit supervisor during a 30+ year law enforcement career.*

**REGISTER AT EVENTBRITE:**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/concealed-carry-class-tickets-1640782427409?aff=oddttdtcreator>