



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Post 1503

MARCH 26



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

As the 2026 Winter Olympics come to an end, I am reminded of the times in history where the world seems to put their collective antipathy towards each other aside for a while. Though world events during certain Olympics have marred some of the Games, the Olympics elicit the possibility of a world that can be peaceful for at least a short time. Our country had a historic run this year, winning the most medals ever for America in the Winter Olympics. The Games concluded with Team USA winning both the men's and women's hockey gold medals, both teams winning in sudden-death overtime. While achieving another historic moment for USA Olympics, there was another impressive outcome that stems from these wins: Canada becoming a bit more like America. To paraphrase a friend of mine who summed it up best: the Canadians are blaming their loss on the three-on-three overtime format and complaining about it to whoever will listen. The freedom to complain is probably our least recognized export to the rest of the world but is nonetheless real. Perhaps, instead of complaining about everything little thing, we might want to try enjoying what we do have and be a better example to the rest of the world.



On to some Post matters concerning our Master-of-Arms (MAs). Our MAs are an extension of our Post leadership, and they work to maintain the security and safety of our members when working. Give them the courtesy of speaking to them in a temperate and respectful tone as they have duties to keep you safe and secure while at the Post. They have ultimate authority, designated by the Post Commander and Post General Manager, to operate in the method prescribed by designated rules outlined in their duty manual. To that end, when they ask for your membership card, provide it. When they talk to you about behavioral issues, understand that they have the best interest in both your and all members' safety. They have been instructed to treat all our Post members in a respectful and cordial

POST OFFICERS

- Post Commander... Ben Guinan
Senior Vice... Robert "Check" Adamczyk
Junior Vice... Dan Walczyk
Quartermaster... Kurt Hense
Judge Advocate Charles "Romeo" Marlowe
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



manner. We ask that you all return that same respect and courtesy to them when they are on duty.

### **A snowbound February in the books**



A Mother Nature snowcrete smackdown indeed! That was one heck of a snow/ice storm. I hope everyone came through it safely and in good spirits. A special thank you to all the staff and volunteers that helped finish digging out the Post so we could get back to regular business. If you haven't seen the new 100-inch TV in the dance floor area, we got it installed the day before the Super Bowl. It added to what was a fun and entertaining Super Bowl party. The aspect of the party I was most impressed with was the participation in the Potluck. There was a great spread of all kinds of food that everyone enjoyed. I hope to get more Potluck type events going in the future. The staff and kitchen put together a great menu for our Valetines Day dinner. I have heard multiple compliments on the food and how the canteen was decorated. The price was very reasonable for the quality experience the Post provided. As of this writing, we haven't quite gotten to the Gun Show on the weekend of Saturday 28 Feb – Sunday 1 Mar. I know that we will have recruiting tables for our Post and some other of our Post's groups. Thank you to the volunteers that will be covering the tables.

### **March Madness**

Here is a bit of history on how March became associated with Women's History Month (WHM). It began as "Women's History Week" in 1978, created by The Education Task Force of the Sonoma County (California) Commission on the Status of Women. The organizers selected the week of March 8 to correspond with International Women's Day. The event evolved into WHM in 1987 when Congress passed Public Law 100-9, designating March as "Women's History Month." Between 1988 and 1994, Congress passed additional resolutions requesting and authorizing the President to proclaim March of each year as Women's History Month. Since 1995, each president has issued an annual proclamation designating the month of March as "Women's History Month." To kick off celebrating WHM, the Post will be hosting a Women's Veterans Forum in the Hall on Saturday 7 Mar starting at 1300. The Post will be hosting a welcome luncheon for the VFW Auxiliary National President, Lois Callahan, on Tuesday 10 Mar at 1200 in the canteen. Our Military Order of the Cootie and Auxiliary Pup Tents will be electing and installing the new slate of officers for the next VFW year on Wednesday 11 Mar followed by a celebratory dinner at 1900 in A-Hall. The Post is hosting the District 10 Joint VFW and Auxiliary Meeting and Scholarship Awards Ceremony/Luncheon on Saturday 14 Mar in the Hall, with the meeting starting at 1000. Green will be in abundance on St. Patrick's Day on Tuesday 17 Mar. There will be specials and stuff in the canteen to help celebrate the day. The Auxiliary will be hosting their annual Kids Easter Party in the Hall on Sunday 22 Mar starting at 1300. To continue honoring WHM in March, the Post will be hosting the 2nd Women's Small Business Expo on Saturday, 28 Mar from 1000-1700 in the Hall. We will be conducting an observance event for National Vietnam Veterans Day on Sunday 29 Mar in the canteen at 1500. A busy month indeed with plenty of things to get involved with or participate in.

And don't forget to join us for Movie Nights and popcorn every Tuesday! We have an internal passworded website that lists what movies are showing on which Tuesday here: <https://1503movies.vfwus.org/>  
[Password hint: The password is included in the website's name]

### **Upcoming Dates - March 2026**

- Sat 28 Feb-Sun 1 Mar – Gun Show, Hall, 0900
- Sat 7 Mar – Women's Veterans Forum, A-Hall, 1300
- Sun 8 Mar – Daylight Savings Time starts

Tues 10 Mar – National Auxiliary President Welcome Luncheon, Canteen, 1200  
Wed 11 Mar – MOC/MOCA Installation Ceremony / Dinner, A-Hall, 1900  
Sun 14 Mar – District 10 Joint Meeting and Scholarship Awards Ceremony/Luncheon, Hall, 1000  
Tues 17 Mar – St. Patrick's Day (Specials and stuff), Canteen  
Sun 22 Mar – Auxiliary Kids Easter Party, A-Hall, 1300  
Sat 28 Mar – Women's Small Business Expo, Hall, 1000-1700  
Sun 29 Mar – National Vietnam Veterans Day observance, Canteen, 1500

### Things to Consider

Reminder: nominations for Post officers will occur during the March meeting. Post elections will be held in April, and results will be announced at the April meeting. If you would like to have your candidacy announcement included in the April newsletter, make sure to submit those to me after the March meeting. You can reference past candidacy announcements in last year's April 2025 edition of our Post newsletter posted on our Post's website under the News tab for content and structure.

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, telepathy, fire dancing... 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)



**WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH**



# VFW AUXILIARY

Hello Auxiliary 1503 Members!

Welcome March, Every Day we should be seeing signs of Spring beginning to appear-sunny days warmer temperatures, flowers peeking through and birds everywhere!

Welcome to our newest life members, Earline, Paul; annual members Brandon and Larry, and life member Michael. Please attend our monthly meeting! Our February meeting was well attended, with 38 Members! Our membership is currently at 1,080 – let us keep up the recruiting and finish strong!



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** ..... Brenda Richardson
- Guard** ..... Gloria Wiley
- Trustee #1** ..... Brenda Richardson
- Trustee #2** ..... Patricia Wootten
- Trustee #3** ..... Venee Alicea
- Historian** ..... Venee Alicea
- Patriotic Instructor** ..... Joyce Gibbs

Our February Breakfast was at Post 1503; we had 14 members. March Breakfast will be at Post 1503 on the 21st, same time, 9:30. After, we will fill eggs for the Easter Party.

District 10 Meeting: Saturday, March 14 – 10:00 – VFW Post 1503 If you would like information, please contact me.

Department of Virginia VFW & Auxiliary Convention: May 27-31 in Harrisonburg, Virginia. If you would like more information, please contact me or any of the officers.

VFW Store Orders are placed every quarter, and our auxiliary covers shipping! Orders will not be accepted without an order form and payment in full.

To sign up for Auxiliary Chaplain alerts – please contact Michael at [Auxiliarychaplain1503@gmail.com](mailto:Auxiliarychaplain1503@gmail.com) If you have not attended a meeting since joining, please do so! We would like to meet you!

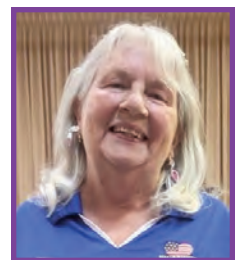
As always, if you have questions, concerns, comments or you are in need of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me or any of our officers – we are here to help. I look forward to seeing you at our monthly meeting, if not sooner!

## Happy St. Patrick's Day!



### Debbie Nichols

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





**VFW AUXILIARY 1503**  
**CHILDREN'S**  
**EASTER EGG HUNT & PARTY**

SUNDAY - MARCH 22, 2026

1 - 3 POST 1503 'A' HALL

14631 MINNIEVILLE RD



ALL CHILDREN  
MUST BE ACCOMPANIED  
BY A PARENT OR ADULT



LIGHT SNACKS - EGG HUNT  
VISIT & PHOTOS WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

**EASTER BASKETS PROVIDED**

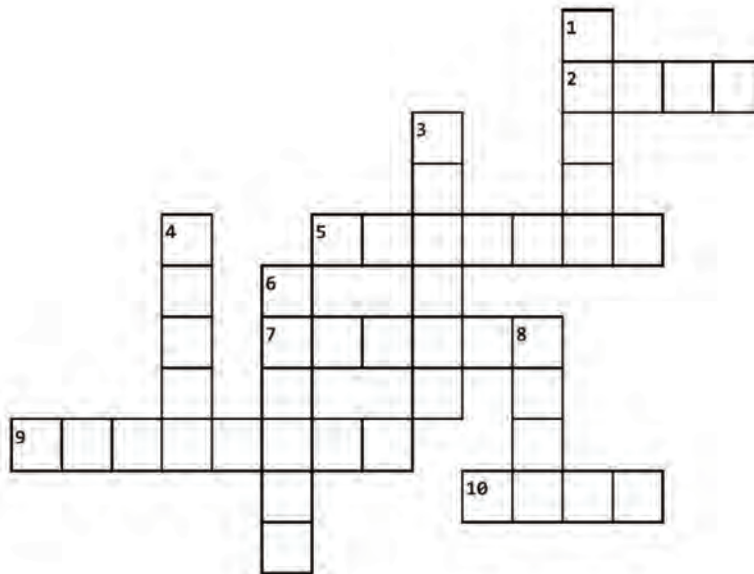
## Womens History Month

F I T E E N E F E A I P G E  
 A O P M E G A R E F F U S P  
 I E J P I Y C I F A T S R N  
 I E C O W E R C O U R A G E  
 I R Q W U J A Y I C E E F U  
 I I C E C G E R E S P E C T  
 C N R R Y T I L A U Q E U R  
 R T E Q I T N E J E D N U G  
 E E P S U I S E U U U E E E  
 S G E D N C P R S E E W I Y  
 A R C R I E I P T C I I N E  
 O I U E Q S R R I R T U E T  
 Y T D A U C E R C I S I I C  
 S Y G M E U M P E R C S P E

RESPECT  
 INTEGRITY  
 UNIQUE  
 EQUALITY  
 DREAM  
 INSPIRE  
 EMPOWER  
 COURAGE  
 SUFFERAGE  
 JUSTICE

# HEAD GAMES

## Womens History Month



### Across

2. 1st Women to dunk in the WNBA
5. One of the most successful women ski racers from the USA
7. One of the best female golfers in the world
9. 1st African American 1st lady of the US
10. 1st African American female to win a medal in Winter Games - Figure skating

### Down

1. Founder of American Red Cross
3. Best all-time Softball player-Pitcher
4. 1st Female to Officiate NFL games
6. Singer, songwriter, record producer, actress and directors
8. Kept a diary documenting her life during WWII

# MILITARY ORDER PURPLE HEART

## National K9 Veterans Day



Every year on March 13, the United States observes National K9 Veterans Day, a day dedicated to honoring the service, bravery, and sacrifices of military and working dogs. While human veterans are rightly celebrated for their defense of the nation, their four-legged counterparts often operate in the shadows, providing a layer of protection that is as vital as it is silent. This observance serves as a poignant reminder that heroism is not exclusive to humans and that the bond between a handler and their dog is one of the most unbreakable forces in the history of warfare and public safety.

The date of March 13 marks the official birthday of the U.S. Army K9 Corps, established in 1942 during the height of World War II. Before this formal recognition, dogs had served informally as mascots or messengers, but the creation of the “War Dog Program” integrated civilian pets to serve as sentries, scouts, and messengers on the front lines as official members of the Armed Forces for the first time.

The modern observance of National K9 Veterans Day was the vision of Joe White, a retired Vietnam War veteran and K9 handler. Having witnessed the courage of these animals firsthand – and deeply troubled by the abandonment many faced after their service – White campaigned to ensure they received the same respect as human veterans. His efforts eventually gained traction, and today, the day honors not only military dogs but also those serving in law enforcement, the Secret Service, and search-and-rescue teams.

The contributions of these animals are staggering. Modern K9s are trained in highly specialized tasks, including detecting explosives, narcotics, and even medical conditions. In combat, a single well-trained dog is estimated to save the lives of up to 200 human soldiers over its career. Beyond their tactical utility, these dogs offer emotional stability and companionship in the most high-stress environments imaginable. They face the same dangers as their handlers, often returning home with physical injuries and even PTSD.

### Notable K9 Heroes:

- Sgt. Stubby: The most decorated war dog of World War I, who served 18 months and participated in 17 battles
- Hurricane: A U.S. Secret Service canine who received the Medal of Honor and holds a Guinness World Record for his service
- Chips: The most decorated dog of World War II, known for his bravery in combat
- Cairo: The Navy SEAL working dog who participated in the high-profile raid on Osama bin Laden

Through the passage of Robby’s Law in 2000, these heroes are no longer routinely euthanized upon retirement; instead, they are often adopted by their former handlers or loving families. By visiting memorials like the Military Working Dog National Monument or supporting organizations like Mission K9, we ensure that their legacy of loyalty and sacrifice is never forgotten. They “served to save,” and as a nation, we owe them a debt of gratitude that transcends species.

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

**Dom Dionne**

Commander • Chapter 1775

**Happy St. Patrick's Day**

## MOC / MOCA

Listen up Cooties and MOCA!

In early February the groundhog saw his shadow, and it looks like we may be in for more wintery weather before Spring is Sprung. Our Lousy Blanket Bum did a Crummy job running the February Scratch in my absence. By all accounts there was fun and frivolity for all.

Our MOC and MOCA hospital chairs made a visit to the Puller Veterans Care Center to deliver some items from their wish list. We are expecting the resident population to grow in the coming months so we may start visiting on a regular basis. In the interim we are working on planning another visit to Richmond VA Hospital. In the coming year we are planning a more predictable schedule to allow for maximum participation to “Keep ’em Smiling in Beds of White.”

The MOCA held elections in February, and the MOC will hold elections this month. Newly elected MOC shavetails and MOCA officers will be installed this month following our Scratch and Meetings on 11 March. We may even have a special MOCA visitor for those Lousy cooties in attendance. We look forward to refreshing the seams of our Pup Tent. Newly elected shavetails and officers will assume their duties upon the installation of the newly elected Grand Commander and President at the end of May.

As always, our current members are seeking out “Comrades-in-arms” who embody the spirit of optimism and are dedicated to the MOC’s primary directive of having fun while performing serious service. This service includes extensive volunteer work at VA Medical Centers – living out the motto to “Keep ’em Smiling in Beds of White” – and supporting the VFW National Home. Ask a Cootie or a member of the MOCA about how to become a part of the “Honor Degree of the VFW.”

**The next MOC/MOCA Meeting is 11 March. I hope to see you there.**

**Keep ’Em Smiling In Beds Of White!**

**Tom Levitt**

MOC Seam Squirrel

**Peggy Palomares**

MOCA President



## 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.

# POST HISTORIAN'S ARCHIVE

March celebrates **Women's History Month**, spotlighting the courageous service of women in America's armed forces, while America's 250th anniversary continues to highlight Revolutionary War heritage. VFW Post 1503 members will find outstanding military history opportunities across Virginia, Maryland, and Washington, D.C.

## In Virginia

- **George Washington's Mount Vernon** (near Alexandria): The Patriots Path Revolutionary War encampment reopens March 14 at its new location near the Oxen paddock. Explore Continental Army tents, kitchen, laundry yard, and interact with interpreters on soldier life – perfect for America 250. <https://www.mountvernon.org/250>
- **Jamestown Settlement** (Williamsburg area): **“Military Through the Ages”** on March 21–22 features hundreds of reenactors spanning ancient Greece to modern conflicts, including Revolutionary War, Civil War, World Wars, and Vietnam. Enjoy artillery firings, military music, hands-on demos, and sutler vendors. <https://www.jyfmuseums.org/events/programs-activities/military-through-the-ages>
- **Virginia War Memorial** (Richmond): Join the **Salute to Service** on March 21 honoring the 35th anniversary of Operation Desert Storm with speakers, documentaries, and ceremonies. On March 29, attend the **National Vietnam War Veterans Day Open House** (10 a.m.–3 p.m.) with memorabilia, oral histories, films, and special pins for eligible veterans. <https://vawarmemorial.org>
- **National Museum of the United States Army** (Fort Belvoir): Free History Talks include **“Tails of Valor: Animals in the U.S. Army”** (March 4, 11 virtual; March 18 virtual/in-person) and **“We the People – Nisei Soldiers in World War II”** (March 26). Also, Military Academies Expo on March 7. <https://www.thenmusa.org/public-programs/history-talks>

## In Maryland

- **Southern Maryland Civil War Round Table** (Newburg): Monthly meeting March 10 at 7 p.m. at the Maryland Veterans Museum. Speaker Garth Bowling presents on Civil War history in Charles County, including African American regiments and local stories from his book *Shadows of War*. <https://somdcwrt.org/>

## In Washington, D.C.

- **Military Women's Memorial** (Arlington): Celebrate Women's History Month with exhibits on servicewomen, including the new **“From War to Peace: World War II Opportunity”** and special programming/film screenings highlighting female veterans. <https://womensmemorial.org/>
- **American Revolution Institute** (Anderson House, DC): Attend the March 10 lecture **“Rebels at Sea: Privateering in the American Revolution”** (6:30 p.m.) exploring the critical naval role of privateers. Additional Revolutionary War talks on March 3 (virtual) and March 17. <https://www.americanrevolutioninstitute.org/events/>

National Mall memorials and Arlington National Cemetery remain excellent for self-guided reflection. Many sites tie directly into America's 250th celebrations. Always confirm dates, tickets, hours, and weather – dependent activities on the websites, as schedules may update. These powerful experiences honor our veteran heritage – plan a group visit and share what you learn! If you need more information feel free to contact me at [vandergriffdonald@usa.net](mailto:vandergriffdonald@usa.net) or 571-344-0886.

For more, check Eventbrite or local VFW calendars. Hooah!

**Don Vandergriff**  
Post Historian  
[vandergriffdonald@usa.net](mailto:vandergriffdonald@usa.net)

# POST'S ACTIVITY REPORTING

Comrades,

We are reaching out to all to help improve our Post's activity reporting to the VFW Department of Virginia.

The VFW reporting system is used to track Post performance, document compliance with nonprofit status, provide data for legislative lobbying and capture post service activities.

Our Post's Community Reports are based on reports submitted to Department Headquarters via the State's reporting tool on the State website.

The officer who holds the Junior Vice Commander role submits our Post's recurring events to the Department monthly in the following Community Report categories: Americanism, Community Service, Safety, Youth Activities, and Hospital Reports.

We need your help in capturing all individual and small group activities that our members do or take part in. These activities are often overlooked as things we do as volunteers, advocates, and service-oriented citizens and go unreported.

Examples for what can be reported include:

1. Americanism – Attending an observance ceremony away from the Post.
2. Community Service – Cutting the lawn for a homebound neighbor.
3. Safety – Safety briefing before an activity or event.
4. Youth Activities – Judging one of the youth scholarship programs.
5. Hospital Report – Taking a neighbor to a medical appointment that they couldn't drive to.

The above examples are just a few of the types of reports that can be entered for each Community Report category. If you are not sure which category your report falls under, feel free to ask one of the Post officers for guidance.

There are two ways to submit your report.

## Option 1:

1. Go to <https://vfwva25-26.reportin.org/>
2. Enter our Post Number: **1503**
3. Enter our Post's password: **post1503**
4. Click on **Submit Reports**
5. Select the Community Report category your report applies to and click **Continue**.
6. Enter the report information in the appropriate fields and click **Submit** when complete.

## Option 2:

1. Write up a short description of the event. The report should contain the following information: your name, number of members involved, number of hours the event took, miles driven to accomplish the event, total cost, the date completed and if the VFW Riders group was involved. **Note:** if submitting a hospital report, make sure to report the number of patients the activity/event helped as well as the rest of the information listed above.
2. Email the information to: [danwalczyk@yahoo.com](mailto:danwalczyk@yahoo.com) .

If you have any questions, please email me, give me a call at **571-232-0186**, or ask me when you see me at the Post.

**Dan Walczyk**  
Junior Vice Commander

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

### Perfect Peace

We all look for peace during times of hardship. Employment challenges, sudden or chronic illness, financial trouble, the passing of a family member or close friend. But where do we find precious peace? How do we experience peace when life is full of ups and downs?

*Isaiah 26:3 says, “You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.”*

During these troubling times we need a deep, lasting and unwavering peace. We can find this peace by focusing on God. We need a peace that will sustain us as the storm rages around us. God is always faithful to us. He never leaves us, never forsakes us, never abandons us. He is always with us, always sustaining us, always preserving us. He loves us and is our shepherd.

*Philippians 4:6 says, “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.”*

Whenever troubles arise that should be a signal for us to run to God in prayer and supplication. Supplication just means to ask for something earnestly or humbly. If we want to experience peace, we must cast all our anxieties upon God. We must run to God and give Him the burdens we can't bear. We can exchange our burdens for the wonderful peace that He offers.

**PRAYER:** “Heavenly Father, Almighty God, keep me in that perfect peace which you have promised to those whose minds are stayed on you. When life is difficult, unpredictable, chaotic, and unfair, remind me that you're in control.” *Amen*



**Ed Bennett**  
Chaplain

CELEBRATING  
**WOMEN'S**  
**HISTORY**  
**MONTH**

# Happy St. Patrick's Day

## FACILITY HAPPENINGS

First of all I would like to say thanks to all of you who came out to help the Post dig out from the snow. We have a great line up with lots of activities for the month of March so please come out and support us. The entertainment committee is doing a great job putting together events and entertainment so all Post Members can come out and enjoy themselves. In the next few weeks we will be back to normal with our fire alarm system but we will continue to monitor entrances to the canteen. Master Of Arms will continue to check membership, and on Fridays at 9pm all guests must be signed in. Last year in November we started talking about raising prices on alcohol and for the last 4 months Comrade Tom Gimble has been monitoring our profit and loss, and its time to raise prices as I mentioned at our last meeting, so starting March 1st you will see an increase in prices in the canteen.



**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, **VFWI503.org**



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



## 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/I503pics>**

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

## VETERAN NEWS

*“You must never be fearful about what you are doing when it is right.”*

– Rosa Parks

### VFW News

#### **VFW Applauds Federal Court Decision Striking Down Louisiana ‘PLUS Act’**

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) applauds the federal court’s decision striking down Louisiana’s so-called “PLUS Act” as unconstitutional. This ruling sends a clear message: States cannot rewrite federal law to accommodate companies that rip off veterans – and any state considering similar legislation should take notice.

For years, the VFW has warned that laws like the PLUS Act undermine Congress’ carefully balanced system for veterans’ benefits and open the door to abuse and even fraud by unaccredited, fee-charging operators. The court’s decision confirms that those warnings were justified.

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://voterve.net/VFW/register>

### VA News

#### **VA undoes decades-old wrong and protects Veterans’ Second Amendment rights**

The Department of Veterans Affairs today announced a major new step to protect Veterans’ Second Amendment rights. Effective immediately, VA will not report Veterans to the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s National Instant Criminal Background Check System as “prohibited persons” only because they need help from a fiduciary in managing their VA benefits.

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

#### **Uncommon Valor: Heroics of the Battle of Iwo Jima**

Eighty-one years ago, roughly 70,000 U.S. Marines landed on a volcanic island roughly 750 miles south of Tokyo. What they thought would take five days lasted 36, producing some of the fiercest combat in American military history and more Medals of Honor than any single battle before or since.

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.

## VFW and AUXILIARY 1503

HELP FILL THE BOXES FOR A LOCAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
YOUR DONATIONS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED!!

### Grains & Pasta:

- Rice
- Quinoa
- Pasta
- Mac & Cheese
- Dried Potatoes
- Stuffing Mix

### Canned Goods:

- Beans
- Chickpeas
- Lentils
- Tomato Products
- Tuna/Chicken
- Soup
- Canned Meat
- Broth/Stock

### Snacks:

- Applesauce/Fruit Cups
- Granola Bars
- Pretzels/Chips – Snack Packs
- Crackers – Snack Packs

### Breakfast Items:

- Instant or Regular Oatmeal
- Cereal
- Cereal Bars
- Pancake Mix/Syrup

### Baking:

- Olive/Vegetable Oil
- Flour
- Cooking Spray
- Sugar
- Baking Powder/Soda
- Spices/Seasonings
- Vanilla
- Cake/Brownie Mix
- Frosting
- Shelf Stable Milk – **Dollar Tree**  
is the best place to purchase!!

**Gently Used or New Children's  
Gym Shoes**

**Sizes – 12 – 7**

**AGES - 8-12**

**If you would like to leave a gift  
card – the Auxiliary will be happy  
to purchase needed items and  
provide you with a receipt. Please  
leave in an envelope with your  
name and phone number in the  
AUX mailbox in the canteen.**

**Collecting March 1-31**

VFW Post 1503

# ST. PATRICK'S PARTY

17 MARCH 2026

DJ Michael starts the  
Shenanigans at 4pm  
FOOD-DRINKS-MUSIC

Women's

**2nd  
Annual**

**SMALL BUSINESS EXPO**

**SAT  
28**

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Saturday March 28th**

**10 AM TO 5 PM**

**VFW POST 1503** **10 AM**

14631 Minnieville Rd, Dale City, VA 22193

**FREE**

**FREE TO THE PUBLIC**  
**PLENTY OF PARKING**

**Local Crafts - Local Businesses**  
**Curated Artisans**

**(Vendors—Shopping—Food)**

**5 PM**

Scan barcode below for more vendor information





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

The VFW Department of Virginia has created a new partnership with the Virginia Department of Veterans Services. Since September 2025, VFW Post 1503 has hosted 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. Due to the success of the itinerant site, we will now be offering two(2) additional days on the 2nd and 3rd Fridays 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!



Combat Tested Gaming (CTG) has become the fastest-growing veterans gaming community in America. We are approaching 2,500 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

**2,250+**  
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)

# VFW ENTERTAINMENT

## MARCH EVENTS

**Friday, March 6 | 8pm - 12am**  
DJ Mario | Let's Dance to the music

**Saturday, March 7 | 8pm - 12am**  
KDJ Karaoke with DJ Lee time to sing

**Friday, March 13 | 8pm - 12am**  
DJ Big C | Let's Dance to the music

**Saturday, March 14 | 8pm - 12am**  
The New Dominion Band Live Band  
Motown, Country, Classic Rock, R&B

**Friday, March 20 | 8pm - 12am**  
DJ Danny | Let's Dance to the music

**Saturday, March 21 | 7pm - 9 pm**  
Line Dancing with Cornelius Jackson

**Friday, March 27 | 8pm - 12am**  
DJ Ed | Let's Dance to the music

**Saturday, March 28 | 8pm - 12am**  
DJ Steve | Let's Dance to the music

# ST. PATTY'S DAY

Come Join Us for a Full Day of Fun and Good Eating.  
Our Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner is the Best in Town.

We will have Plenty of Music for Your Listening Pleasure and You Can Count on Hearing and Seeing Things Only Available at the V.

We will have Noise Makers, **COLD BEER**, Hats, **COLD BEER**, Beads, **COLD BEER**.



## SAVE THE DATE

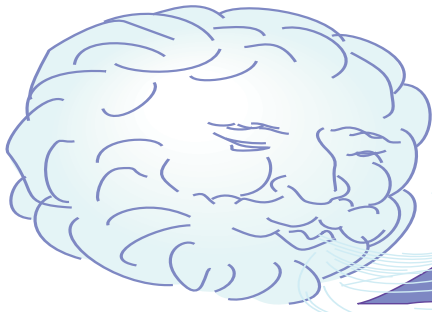
**UP-COMING EVENTS PAGE POST 1503**

**Line Dancing Class Monthly**  
**Karaoke with KDJ Lee 3-7-26**  
**New Dominion Band 3-14-26**

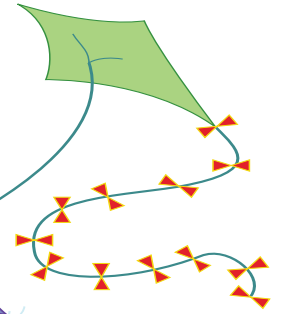
**The Diamond Alley Band 4-11-26**

**Parties in the Pavillion**  
**Bar Crawl and Wine Tours**





# March



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> <b>GUN SHOW</b> Breakfast 9-12:00	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> BINGO 7:30	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> BINGO 7:30	<b>6</b> <b>DJ Mario</b> FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-8:00	<b>7</b> <b>KDJ Karaoke</b> <b>DJ Lee</b> Breakfast 9-12 <b>WINGS</b> 6:00-8:00
<b>8</b> Breakfast 9-12:00 	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> BINGO 7:30	<b>11</b> <b>MOCA</b> 7:00 pm <b>MOC</b> 7:00 pm	<b>12</b> BINGO 7:30	<b>13</b> <b>DJ Big C</b> FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-8:00	<b>14</b> <b>New Dominion Band</b> Breakfast 9-12 <b>WINGS</b> 6:00-8:00
<b>15</b> Breakfast 9-12:00	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> BINGO 7:30 	<b>18</b> <b>Auxiliary</b> 7:00 pm <b>Post Meeting</b> 7:00 pm	<b>19</b> BINGO 7:30	<b>20</b> <b>DJ Danny</b> FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-8:00	<b>21</b> <b>Line Dancing Cornelius</b> <b>AUX Brkfst</b> Breakfast 9-12 <b>WINGS</b> 6:00-8:00
<b>22</b> <b>Children's Easter Party</b> 1:00 Breakfast 9-12:00	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> BINGO 7:30	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> BINGO 7:30	<b>27</b> <b>DJ Ed</b> FRIDAY Dinners 5:00-8:00	<b>28</b> <b>DJ Steve</b> Breakfast 9-12 <b>WINGS</b> 6:00-8:00
<b>29</b> Breakfast 9-12:00	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> BINGO 7:30				

# Veterans of Foreign Wars

## Post 1503

14631 Minnieville Road  
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193



**Next Monthly Meeting**

**March 18th**

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

# VFW Post 1503 Movie Nights

**Tuesdays at 7:30pm**

Upcoming Schedule at  
[1503movies.vfwus.org](http://1503movies.vfwus.org)

Ask a staff member for the passcode



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