

"We're surrounded... that simplifies our problem."



General Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller

VFW Post 1503

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

DEC

14631 MINNIEVILLE ROAD
DALE CITY, VIRGINIA 22193
703.670.4124

www.vfwpost1503.com

2018

CANTEEN HOURS: Sunday / Monday / Wednesday 12 Noon - 11 PM
Tuesday / Thursday / Saturday 12 Noon - 12 Midnight • Friday 12 Noon - 2 AM

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Comrades,

Our State Commander Ken Wiseman visited the post during his District 10 visit and joined some of the Post Officers for dinner.



events. Thank you to all that volunteered to represent 1503 at these various functions. There are too many photos to share in the Newsletter but they can be viewed on our Website and Facebook pages.

The American Red Cross blood drive was a huge success and many thanks to Ben Guinan for organizing the well-attended event.

Diversity Lodge 330 provided hamburgers and hot dogs November 10th and presented 1503 with a "Redskin Football" which is displayed on the bar.



POST OFFICERS

- Post Commander . . . Thomas Williams, Jr.
- Senior Vice Thomas Levitt II
- Junior Vice Bernie Carter
- Quartermaster Tim Brown
- Judge Advocate Randy Coker
- Surgeon Ben Guinan
- Chaplain Ed Bennett
- 3 Year Trustee Tom Gimble
- 2 Year Trustee John Dodge
- 1 Year Trustee Ron Laney
- Adjutant Sterling Moninghoff
- Service Officer Ed Tatum
- Asst. Service Officer Tami Brown
- Past Commander Tim Brown

It's been a busy November for Post 1503 many of us participated in the Quantico Service November 11th and other events that same weekend to include Thank a Vet at Pattie Elementary, ROTC Veteran event at Woodbridge High School as well as other Veteran community





Special thanks to Ron Laney and Jim Spiker for once again organizing the 243rd Marine Birthday Ball. The meal provided by Erin and her staff was terrific. Our Post photographer Deena was present and has multiple photos posted on our Post website. Check them

On a serious note we need to actively recruit new comrades in order to preserve our future as an organization. To do so we need all of our current comrades to vigorously recruit qualifying veterans. Smile at a new face in the canteen him/her maybe "checking us out" as a potential

new member the last thing they should feel is unwelcome. Our future as an organization depends on our younger generation of veterans. Ensure that Post 1503 grows by using every available opportunity to recruit.

Packing day for Food Baskets is Friday, December 14th and delivery Saturday, December 15th 0800 hrs. Drivers needed!!!

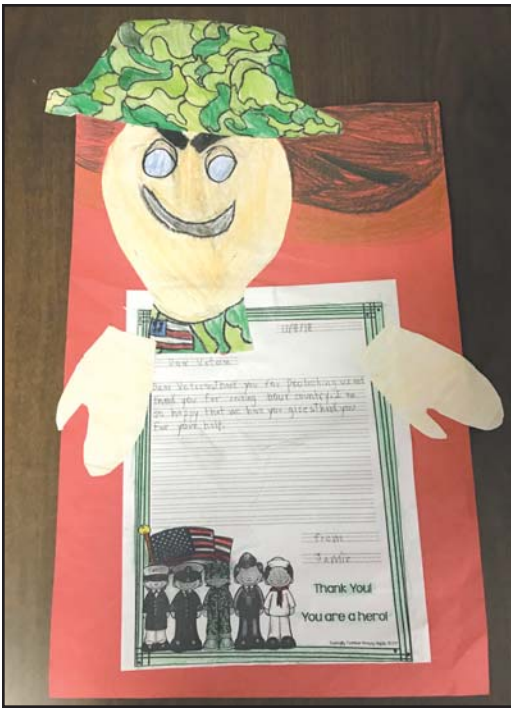


Christmas Trees finally arrived and were off loaded in record time. Thank you to all involved especially Ed Volg who single handily carried 26 trees and a shout out to Boy Scouts Troop 1919.

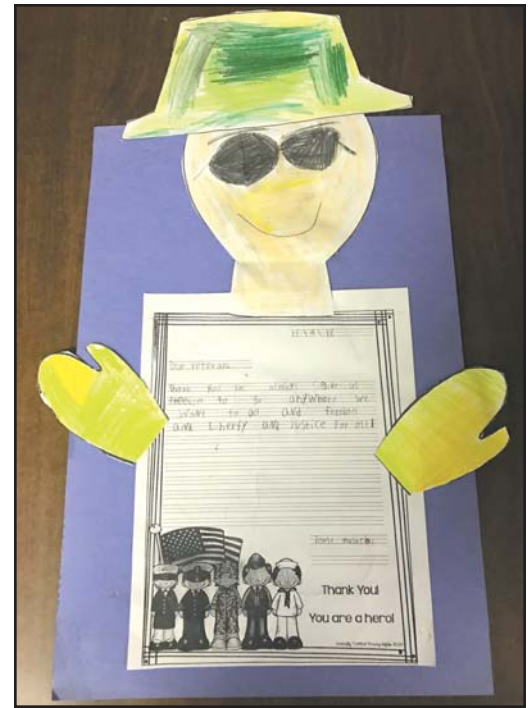
I wish all my comrades and their families, our soldiers serving the USA everywhere in the world a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thomas Williams, Jr.
Post Commander





These letters were sent by the students of John F. Pattie Sr. Elementary School to our Comrades that supported their Thank a Vet program.



VFW AUXILIARY

Happy Holidays Auxiliary Members!
 I hope everyone enjoyed their Thanksgiving. Thank you to everyone who participated in our Buddy Poppy Campaign. We collected over \$3,500 which will go to assist our Veterans directly. Special thanks to Speedy, Nick Bufano, and Coop. They were a great help. Christmas Tree sales are underway. Please come out and lend us a hand selling this year. Our Children's Christmas Party is December 16 from 1-3. Please try and come out and help us starting at 11:00 a.m. on the 16th. We will be delivering Christmas Baskets on the 15th. Please see the sign-up sheet in the Canteen. New Year's tickets are on sale. Please see John Meehan to purchase them. I wish you all Happy Holidays and a Joyous New Year!

p.s. Thank you Linda Steinway for all of your help this year. I greatly appreciate it!

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

- President Jim Moore
- Sr. Vice President Kelli Levitt
- Jr. Vice President John Crawford
- Secretary Cindy O'Connor
- Treasurer Karla Coker
- Chaplain Joyce Del Vecchio
- Conductor Jan Kiecker
- Guard Monica Walczyk
- 1st Yr Trustee Reggie Garland
- 2nd Yr Trustee Judy Bridges
- 3rd Yr Trustee Rebecca Moninghoff
- Historian Joyce Gibbs
- Patriotic Instructor Ernestine Jenkins

Jim Moore
 Auxiliary President

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

Patriots:

On Veterans Day, we had Patriots Matt McGuire and Leo Filipowicz carry our Chapter colors and Patriot Dionne standing by to help, for services at Quantico VA Cemetery. Thanks, Patriots, for making this a successful and meaningful day for veterans. Also, those prettier than a speckled pup Christmas trees arrived on the 25th and help is needed to sell them. Any time that you can give will be much appreciated! The U.S. Marine Birthday Ball was a success and special thanks to all that made it a success including the VFW staff, the volunteers that collected donations at the desk (Angel, Samantha and Christine), Mike Beach and Bob's Printing and the Birthday Ball committee! The Chapter will donate and participate in the VFW Food Drive to our needy families at Christmas on Saturday, December 15th @ 0800. All volunteers are needed to drive and deliver the baskets prior to our Chapter meeting. The Post will have a sign-up sheet in the canteen.

Our next Chapter meeting is on Saturday, December 15th. We need to continue to be proactive in helping our wounded Veterans and their families!! Our Chapter's mission is to serve our combat wounded veterans and their families. Call me at 703-244-5428

GOD BLESS AMERICA!!!

Ron Laney
Commander
Semper Fi Chapter 1775



FACILITY HAPPENINGS

Can't believe I'm doing the news article for DECEMBER, where did this year go.

Being December, means our annual FOOD BASKET program is just around the corner. This year we will be delivering the baskets on the 15th of December. Drivers and helpers needed. Sign up sheet on front door in the canteen. Right now we have 91 families and over 580 mouths to feed. This number will go up between now and the 15th. For new members this program started over 20 years ago with initial delivery to 10 families in need. Over the years it has expanded to the volume mentioned. We get the names from 5 different Prince William County schools of needy families. Please join us.

New Years Eve is right around the corner also. We will cut off sale of tickets once we have sold 280. As of today we have 200 booked. So please if want to join us you need to contact me now or it will be too late. Please see flyer elsewhere in this newsletter for additional info. Cost for tickets now at \$75.00 per person.

WINGS WILL NOT BE SERVED AFTER THE DECEMBER 8TH WEEKEND. They will start again on January 5th, 2019.

GUN SHOW ... DEC 1ST AND 2ND

WINGS ... DEC 1ST AND 8TH (NO WINGS AFTER THIS DATE TILL JAN 5TH)

FOOD BASKETS ... DEC 15TH (DRIVERS – HELPERS BE HERE BY 8 AM)

CHILDREN'S PARTY ... DEC 16TH (A HALL)

NEW YEARS EVE PARTY ... DEC 31ST (A AND B HALL)

John Meehan
Facility Manager

VFW Service Officers Hard at Work

“In fiscal year 2017, the VA reported that the VFW’s global network of 2,000 service officers assisted more than 500,000 wounded, ill and injured veterans recoup nearly \$7.7 billion in disability compensation and pension, a number that included 158,000 new claims.”!
(VFW Magazine Nov/Dec Issue page 12)

Environmental Health Registry Evaluation for Veterans

VA’s Health Registry Evaluation is a free, voluntary medical assessment for Veterans who may have been exposed to certain environmental hazards during military service. The evaluations alert the Veterans to possible long-term health problems that may be related to exposure to specific environmental hazards during their military service. VA has established several health registries to track and monitor the health of specific groups of Veterans. The registry data helps VA understand and respond to these health problems more effectively.

You may be eligible to participate in one or more of these health registries:

- Agent Orange Registry (/exposures/agentorange/benefits/registry-exam.asp)
- Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry
- (<https://veteran.mobilehealth.va.gov/AHBurnPitRegistry>)
- Gulf War Registry (/exposures/gulfwar/benefits/registry-exam.asp) (includes Operations Iraqi Freedom and New Dawn)
- Ionizing Radiation Registry (/exposures/radiation/benefits/registry-exam.asp)
- Depleted Uranium Follow-Up Program (/exposures/depleted_uranium/followup_program.asp)
- Toxic Embedded Fragment Surveillance Center (/exposures/toxic_fragments/surv_center.asp)

Use the chart below to help determine your eligibility.

Period of Military Service	Agent Orange	Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit	Depleted Uranium Follow-up	Gulf War	Ionizing Radiation	Toxic Embedded Fragments
1940s–1950s					•	
1960s	•				•	
1970s	•					
1990s		•	•	•		
2000s–Present		•	•	•		•

Contact your local VA Environmental Health Coordinator (/exposures/coordinators.asp) about getting a registry evaluation. You do not need to enroll in VA's health care system to take part.

The registry evaluation is separate from VA’s disability compensation process and does not confirm exposure to environmental hazards during military service. Veterans who want to be considered for disability compensation for exposure-related health problems must file a claim for disability compensation. During the claims process, VA will check military records to verify exposure to the claimed environmental hazard or qualifying military service. If necessary, VA will set up a specific compensation examination. If any questions about VA Compensation, Pension, Survivor’s Benefits, please contact me at tbrown3404@verizon.net or text message only at 703-901-0460.

Courtesy Please: This office stays very busy. If you schedule an appointment but must cancel or reschedule – please let me know. The amount of NO-SHOWS has been increasing, and those time slots could be going to another Veteran who is in need of assistance. Thank you in advance.

Please note: I will be out of the office from Dec 20 – Dec 26, 2018. Contact during that time will be Ms. BobbieJo Lazo, DSO, serviceofficer@vfwva.org or 804-452-1437.

Tami Brown
VFW Post 1503
Assistant Post Service Officer
tbrown3404@verizon.net



Hello Cooties and Ladybugs, We'd like to apologize that there has not been any articles in the newsletter for the last two months. So here we are playing catch up.

Wow! We had a wonderful few weeks with our Flea Market being a great success earning just over \$1,200.00 for the veterans! A huge thank you to all who participated.

Our Cornhole tournament was a lot of fun and brought in some good money as well and a thank you to all who participated in that also.

Our visit to McGuire VA Hospital Oct 13 was so much fun; we served pizza and snacks to over 70 patients with 18 volunteers. We handed out goody bags, had trivia and Ronnie and Carol came and did their magic with Caroloke: thanks you two, you are a blessing!

Our next hospital visit will be December 8th. We will be meeting at the VFW at 8:30 am for breakfast then carpooling to Richmond. Hope to see you there.

We would like to personally thank our chairpersons: Rebecca Moninghoff, Kelli Levitt, Ben Guinan and Bob Dugas for all their hard work: THANK YOU!

On the 20th of November we had a bake sale and jewelry sale; thanks to all who brought goodies to sell and thank you Carol for your beautiful jewelry. We will have another bake and jewelry sale December 20th, so if you have a special recipe for the holidays your contributions are greatly appreciated, thank you in advance.

REMEMBER... KEEP THEM SMILING IN BEDS OF WHITE

Kevin Oleksy
MOC Seam Squirrel

Judy Bridges
MOCA President

 *Merry*
CHRISTMAS



VFW Post 1503

December Entertainment

DJ Carolokie 1st 15th 22nd

DJ Danny 7th 21st 28th

**December 8th
Fabulous Soul Kitty**

**December 14th
The Red Wine Band**

**December 29th
Massive DRD Band**

**December 31st
New Years Eve Bash
Nitelite Band Extravaganza**

Merry Christmas



HAPPY NEW YEAR

Monday, December 31, 2018

Doors Open at 6:00

Cocktails 6:00 • Dinner 7:00

\$75 per person or \$600 for a Table of 10

(table price good until November 20, 2018)

VFW Post 1503

14631 Minnieville Road • Dale City, VA

Entertainment by **NiteLife**

Dancing starts at 8:30

Hot Station with Salad Bar

Buffet Style Dinner

Assorted Desserts

December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Gun Show Carolokie Breakfast 9-12 WINGS Weekly Drawings Queen of Hearts
2 Gun Show Breakfast 9:00 - 12:00	3	4 BINGO 7:30	5 Boy Scouts 7:30	6 BINGO 7:30	7 Dinner 5-9 DJ Danny 8-12	8 Soul Kitty Breakfast 9-12 WINGS Weekly Drawings Queen of Hearts
9 Breakfast 9:00 - 12:00	10	11 BINGO 7:30	12 MOCA 7:00 pm MOC 7:30 pm Boy Scouts 7:30	13 BINGO 7:30	14 Dinner 5-9 Red Wine Band	15 Purple Heart Mtg. Food Basket Carolokie Breakfast 9-12 NO Wings Weekly Drawings Queen of Hearts
16 Children's Xmas Party 1-3 Breakfast 9:00 - 12:00	17	18 BINGO 7:30	19 Post Meeting 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:30	20 BINGO 7:30	21 Dinner 5-9 DJ Danny 8-12	22 Carolokie Breakfast 9-12 NO Wings Weekly Drawings Queen of Hearts
23 Breakfast 9:00 - 12:00 30 Breakfast 9:00 - 12:00	24 31 New Year's Eve Party	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS	26 Boy Scouts 7:30	27 BINGO 7:30	28 Dinner 5-9 DJ Danny 8-12	29 Massive DRD Band Breakfast 9-12 NO Wings Weekly Drawings Queen of Hearts

Lunch Specials Prepared Daily – www.vfwpost1503.com

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1503

14631 Minnieville Road
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193



Next Monthly Meeting

December 19th!

www.vfwpost1503.com

