



VFW

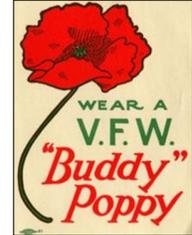
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

POST NEWSLETTER

Loudoun County Post 1177
Leesburg, Virginia
Fall Edition

Volume II, Issue III
15 September 2018



Upcoming Events

16 SEP @ 11:30 AM - District 10 Meeting at Post Home

18 SEP @ 7:30 PM Cooties Scratch at Post Home

22 SEP @ 1:00 PM Cooties Bingo at VAMC Martinsburg

31 OCT - Due Date for Patriots Pen and Voice of Democracy

15 DEC @ 5:00 PM - Post Holiday Party at Post Home

28 JUN @ 7 PM - VFW Veterans Ball at River Creek Club

Post 1177 Officers

- Commander: Ray Delpesche
- Senior Vice Commander: Travis Potts
- Junior Vice Commander: Richard Bruns
- Quartermaster: Les Flores
- Service Officer: Jay Greely Jr.
- VFW Riders President: Gene Odum
- Honor Guard Commander: Robert Cranson
- Cooties Seam Squirrel: Phil Rusiolelli
- VFW Auxiliary President: Carolyn L. Hurd

Members Dressed to the 9s at Ball

LANDSDOWNE, VA - On June 22nd, the Post hosted its 8th Annual Veterans Ball at the River Creek Club. Representatives from local Veteran organizations, active service members, along with post members.

The evening started with cocktails as guests were invited to mingle, share stories and enjoy the evening.



Comrades Dick Shingleton and Bob Shawn along with Captain Donald Hill cut the cake.

ceremonies conducted by the Post Honor Guard and Chaplain, followed by a brief speech by the post leadership and dinner, guests danced the evening away, showing off their best moves.

Special thanks to Comrade Phil Rusiolelli for coordinating this event.

The post plans to

host the event next year at the club on 28 July 2019. ✕

Post Home Enters 2nd Phase Improvements

LEESBURG, VA - During the course of the summer, the Post Home has undergone the Second Phase of renovations, headed by Comrades Bill Packard and Phil Rusiolelli.



Comrade Phil Rusiolelli helps out lay out new gravel for the post's driveway.

These renovations have included laying a brick perimeter around the post, upgrading the storage shed, re-graveling the post's driveways,

donations and a second Home Depot grant. Many thanks to our Comrades. ✕

installing a post security system, installing a new post sign, painting the exterior, repairing the windows, installing a new picnic area behind the post, and various landscaping efforts.

Phase Two renovations have been funded by post

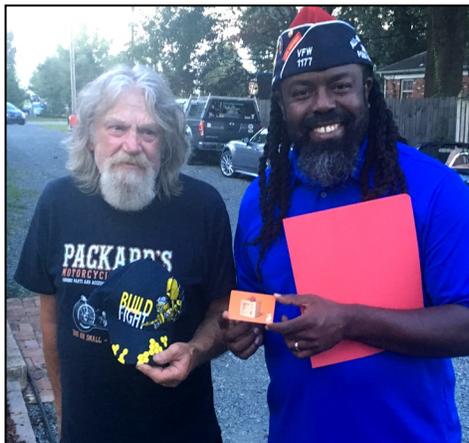
Phase Two renovations have been funded by post donations and a second Home Depot grant. Many thanks to our Comrades. ✕



Post Officers Elected

LEESBURG, VA - Post 1177 held its annual officer elections this Summer. Most previous officers retained their previous positions, to include Ray Delpesche as Post Commander, Travis Potts as Post Sr. Vice-Commander and Les Flores as Post Quartermaster. Richard Bruns has been elected to take the seat of Post Jr. Vice Commander. We wish the 2018-2019 cadre of post officers well and thank all previous officers for their service to the post, the community and veterans. ✖

Post Quick Shots



Post Commander Ray presents Comrade Bill Packard with a going away gift



Post 1177 and AL 2001 attend 9/11 ceremony at Ashburn

Post Represented at Convention

KANSAS CITY, MO - In mid-June, the VFW hosted its 119th National Convention. Comrades Richard Bruns and Dennis Boykin represented Post 1177 as delegates. Our comrades participated in discussions and debates over proposed by-laws that affect the future of the VFW and its members.

The convention also featured representatives from various organizations seeking to support veterans, panels focused on post management, membership growth and supporting



The Virginia Delegates gather before voting on the new by-laws.

veterans in need, and opportunities to meet and greet other comrades from across the US and the world.

The convention also included the election of our new VFW National Commander, B.J. Lawrence as well as an address to veterans by President Donald Trump, thanking the VFW for its commitment to veterans.

The next VFW National Convention will be hosted in Orlando, Florida on 20-24 July 2019. If interested in officially representing the post, contact a post officer. ✖

Post Continues 4th of July Tradition

LEESBURG, VA - On the hot and steamy 4th of July, members of the post Honor Guard and Riders participated in the Leesburg Independence Day parade.

The parade down King St. celebrates our freedom as a nation. The post has been participat-



ing in this parade for years. Tradition includes taking the annual post photo (pictured) at Ida Lee Park, prior to the start of the event.

The Post Jeep and several other Comrades supported the event. ✖



Cooties Visits Comrade

STERLING, VA - On August 15th, members of Pup Tent 17 met and conducted their monthly scratch at the foot of the bed of Comrade "Colonel" Bob Shawn at Sterling Rehab.

The dastardly Cooties sang songs, chatted and did their best to make Colonel Bob's stay at the facility much brighter. Colonel Bob expressed his thanks for the visit and talks about their time together quite frequently. As of publication, Colonel Bob is recovering quite well.

The Cooties hold their "scratches" once a month, with the goal of caring for veterans and their families. For more information contact puptent17@vfw1177.org.



Cooties terrorize Comrade "Colonel" Bob into smiles using off-key songs during his stay at Sterling Rehab



Auxiliary Joins Loudoun Elks in "Reach for the Stars" Event

Written by
Cynthia Cortner,
Elks Lodge 2406

STERLING, VA - On Thursday, September 6th, The Elks Lodouon Lodge held a "Reach for the Stars" event to create blue star packages for veterans and first responders. Several Elks and VFW Auxiliary members participated.

The Auxiliary members supporting the event were Cindy Cortner, Joann Hatton and Pam Koberg.

65 retired American flags with embroidered stars were collected. The stars were cut and placed in



Aux members Pam Koberg and Joann Hatton preparing the stars for donation

pouches along with a message describing the project and a patriotic message directed to veterans, service-members and first responders.

Herndon Band Sponsored by VFW/AUX Performs in Normandy

The Post Auxiliary, along with other VFW Posts and Auxiliaries, have sponsored the Herndon High School Band for their journey to France. The band was selected to represent the USA for the 75th anniversary of the Normandy D-Day landing.

Extra Post Ball Pics

Additional pictures can be found on the Post Website at www.vfw1177.org and Post Facebook page. Special thanks to Comrade Herbert Valle for his outstanding photography at the ball.





The Loudoun County VFW Post 1177 & Auxiliary

Presents

THE 2018 HOLIDAY PARTY!

Celebration & Toy Donation Drive

Saturday

15 December

starting at 5 PM

@ Post Home

Celebrate the holidays with your Comrades,
friends and family. Children welcome.

Events include:

- Potluck & Dessert - Bring a dish to share
- Music & Song
- White Elephant Gift Exchange - \$25 limit
- Activities for kids including a visit from Santa!

We will host a Toys for Tots Donation Drive.
Please bring an unwrapped toy to help local children.

POC for this event: Les Flores

Contact qm@vfw1177.org or (912) 492-0688





VFW National - The VFW Remembers 9/11

KANSAS CITY, MO (September 10, 2018) – On September 11th, the VFW paused to honor Patriot Day and remember the 2,996 lives lost 17 years ago in New York city, the Pentagon and Shanksville Pa.

Since that fateful day, our bravest have fought on multiple fronts, with thousands of our nation’s finest paying the ultimate price for defending our freedoms, and thousands more having returned home bearing the physical and mental scars of battle.

The events of 9/11 serve to remind the world of everything our great nation stands for, that we will fight for the freedom to live our lives free from tyranny and fear, and that the true price of freedom is never free.

The more than 1.6 million members of



the VFW and its Auxiliary encourage all

Americans to take a moment to reflect on all that has changed since Sept. 11, 2001, and to remember the victims, their families, and those who’ve selflessly sacrificed to ensure our way of life remains. ✖

**Veterans
Crisis Line**

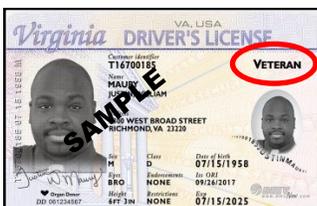


**1-800-273-8255
PRESS 1**

Veteran Benefits to look out for This Fall in Virginia

Veteran Drivers License

RICHMOND, VA - As of 1 July, Virginia Veterans are eligible to have the word “VETERAN” included in newly issued state ID cards and drivers licenses. This will serve as a valid proof of veterans status within the state. To request this card, you must show proof of service (i.e. DD-214) at any DMV, or they must have the record on file. This option is offered by the DMV on behalf of the Department of Veterans Services. For more information, visit your local Virginia DMV or go to www.dmvNOW.com. ✖



Free Flu Shots for Veterans

WASHINGTON, DC - With the coming of Fall and Winter, Flu season is upon us. And I am hearing that this one may be a doozy. To help protect you from the worse, it is recommended to get your flu vaccine early.

The Department of Veterans Affairs, in partnership with Walgreens Pharmacies are offering free flu vaccines to all VA enrolled veterans. Most Walgreens locations are supporting the program, and all is required is your VA ID card and to fill out the form. The program is active now and ends at March 31st 2019.

For more information visit www.va.gov or visit any local Walgreens. ✖





Post Information

Post Address:
401 Old Waterford Rd. NW
Leesburg, VA 20176

Website: www.vfw1177.org
Facebook: facebook.com/vfwpost1177

For general inquires, including veteran's support, membership & post rental, email: contact1177@vfw1177.org

Member meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM



Quartermaster's Corner

Comrades. The end. Its an unfortunate part of the human condition, and an uncomfortable topic to talk about. However, it is a topic we must engage. As veterans, some of us are too familiar with the topic. It is burden we carry as part of our service to our great nation of ours so that our fellow Americans, family and children can live in a world where it is not so commonplace.

But why bring this up? As mentioned in the September Post Membership Meeting, it is important that the post leadership is aware when one of our Comrades departs the physical world. By doing so, yes, it helps keep our post roster up to date, but more importantly, there are other, things that start to take place once we receive notification.

Upon notification, the Post Quartermaster notifies the VFW National Headquarters. This allows the VFW to contact the family and not only express condolences but ensure that the departed's

family is aware of any Veterans Benefits the Comrade has earned as part of his or her service to the nation. This includes enacting life insurance policies and VA burial benefits.

In addition, the post will also express condolences and ensure that the departed Comrade is given appropriate honors, if requested.

It is important for the post to be notified as the family's earliest convenience. Our roster is rather large with Comrades with varying degrees of participation within the post and its activities. Without notification, we must assume the Comrade is alive and well. However, at times VFW National has gone through the rosters of several posts, discovering that Comrades have departed years ago, with returned mail being the only notification. Our Comrades, who served honorably, deserve better. We, at the post will strive to honor them in life and beyond. ✘

On the Lighter Side



The Post's Rider Club enjoying breakfast at the Leesburg IHOP while hosting their meeting and Veterans Breakfast

Veterans Day Poppy Drive

LEESBURG, VA - During the upcoming Veterans Day weekend, the post will conduct its semi-annual Buddy Poppy Drive. The post will send volunteers to hand out poppies at Giant Supermarkets across Loudoun County.

All funds generated during this drive will be placed in the posts Veteran Relief Fund. The fund is used to support local veterans in need. In order to have enough people out there collecting funds, the post is requesting volunteers to donate a few hours to collect donations. If you or your family can support the effort to collect needed funds,

please contact Comrade Phil Rusciollelli at pbrusciollelli@aol.com. Training and supplies will be provided.✘

