



2018 Membership Goal: 100% / 85% Retention
2018 Current Status: 89.29% with 45.79%



December 2017

All American Post— 1985,86,87,89,91,2003,13

All State Post— 1984,85,86,87,89,90,91,94,95,2003,06,09,10,12,13,15

Department of South Carolina Communication Award — 2014,15,16

TSGT. Walter C. Fulda
Post 3433
POST “Crier”

**Veterans of
 Foreign Wars
 of the
 United States**

10154 Bellwright Road
 P.O. Box 1533
 Summerville, SC 29483
 Phone: 843-871-0607

Business E-mail:
vfwpost@comcast.net

Email List:
ladsonvfw_3433@gmail.com

Ballroom Scheduling:
 Bonnie Walton - Coordinator
waltonbonnie29@yahoo.com

VFW National
<http://www.vfw.org/>

Department of SC VFW
<http://www.vfwsc.org/>

VFW Auxiliary
<http://www.vfwauxiliary.org/>

3433 Webpage
<https://vfwpost3433.org/>

**Newsletter Editor—
 Ted Tufts**

From the Commander



Holy cow!!! What a month November was. Thanks to all that were involved with all the activities in the community as well as at the post. Great turn out for the Veterans Day ceremony in Summerville, also a Great turn out for the parade in downtown Charleston.

Tacos, darts, bowling, turkey shoot, the list goes on!

We will have another Taco night on December 14. Come on out for a great night of food, games, and fellowship.

There are multiple activities going on throughout the Christmas season, stop into the post and check out the board.

The Post Christmas party will be December 23 with a Chinese gift exchange to happen that night. Check the board and the TV at the post for more details!!!

Come on out and enjoy your post!

Hope everyone has a great and safe Holiday season!!!

Howie

Todd W. Howard
 Commander 2017-18

From the President



I would like to thank all who helped on Nov. 10th Wreath Laying ceremony for our Vets in Summerville and at the post. We had a great turn out at the VA parade on the Nov 11th. Our next big function is laying of wreath at Patriots point is Pearl Harbor Dec 7th hope to see you all there on the Yorktown. We need a lot of help Dec 17th in preparing sandwiches and food to take to VA Hospital for Xmas party for our patients. Post Children Xmas party is also on the 17th from 1pm to 4pm need help for this.. Remember **NO** steak night in December. To all a **MERRY CHRISTMAS** and a **HAPPY NEW YEAR**.

Betty Gander

VFW Auxiliary President
 2017-2018

Membership



Spread the word

RECRUIT THE FUTURE OF THE VFW. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP + LIFE MEMBERSHIP + YOU = POST 3433.

We need your help to spread the word on what the VFW is about and all the wonderful things we do for our Veterans and their families. Comrades, now is the time – more than ever – to increase our membership in the VFW and in this great Post! Our strength is in our numbers; and our strength starts with each and every one of you! **VFW \$35, Auxiliary \$20.**

Stats as of this writing – **89.29%**. Recruiting is everyone’s task. If you know a veteran or family member who qualifies, take a moment to tell them of all the good things we do to help veterans. Membership applications are behind the bar available to any Comrade or Auxiliary member for the asking.

VFW and AVFW to Post 3433 welcomes the newest members to our post home. On behalf of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, thank you for your continued service to our nation and for becoming a part of the greatest veteran’s organization in the world.

DUES NOTICE SCHEDULE

Annual members will receive a mailed renewal notice five months, three months, and one month prior to their subscription end date. Annual members with a valid email address will also receive an emailed renewal notice six months, four months, and two months prior to their subscription end date.

Annual members will receive a mailed lapsed notice one, three, and five months following their subscription end date.

MEMBERSHIP PAYMENT OPTIONS

Members now have the option to enroll in two beneficial programs. Once enrolled in either program, automatic payments are processed using the credit card information provided on the application. These are simply added options on the membership application. The traditional methods of signing up for both annual and Life membership are still options as well.

VFW Autopay—renews your annual membership automatically!

Life Installment Plan—automatic monthly payments option—with this option, there is no need to complete a payment authorization form.

Annual members are encouraged to take advantage of the Life member installment plan. Annual are also encouraged to take advantage of the automatic payment option if they prefer not to become a life member.

Legacy Life Membership:

This prestigious program is available to all Life members and is now available in memoriam for past Life members. Three levels of membership each offer their own package of exclusive member benefits. Financial contributions to the Legacy Life member program are tax deductible to the maximum extent allowed by law.

Level - Costs	Post	Departments	National
Gold - \$1,200.00	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.00
Silver- \$800.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00
Bronze- \$400.00	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00

Service Officer



Hello Comrades and Merry Christmas! I hope during the just past Thanksgiving Holiday we all took just a moment, if only in our minds, to thank those Veterans that preceded us, those Veterans that served with us, and those that serve after us for the safety and security of our great nation.

As post Service Officer, part of my duties are to keep you informed of changes in Veterans Administration changes and Federal Government changes that will have consequences for our membership and Veterans everywhere.

The latest change being considered as part of its effort to expand private health care, the Department of Veterans Affairs is exploring the possibility of merging its health system with the Pentagon's. This idea is still new and no real detailed proposals have been made public. But already the pros and cons are being explored. An apparent major component of the proposal would be a merger of the VA's Choice and the military's TRICARE private health care programs. VA spokesman Curt Cashour called the plan a potential "game-changer" that would "provide better care for veterans at a lower cost to taxpayers," but he provided no specific details. However, at least four of the nation's largest veterans' organizations — The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, AMVETS and Disabled American Veterans — called a TRICARE merger a likely "non-starter" if it sought to transform VA care into an insurance plan. So we shall wait and learn more details, then make our voices heard whether it will be for or against the final proposal remains to be seen.

It seems all too often our Veteran Service Organizations end up in an adversarial role with the VA and Congress. I must admit I sometime feel a love/hate relationship with the VA and Congress. But I understand that as each of us has our own opinion, so do they. All we can do is be vigilant and make sure our elected official know how we feel.

Again, I wish every Comrade, all men and women in uniform, and their loved ones a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Attention all retirees and annuitants,

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service's addresses changed effective May 1, 2017. The old addresses are being discontinued and will be replaced by addresses in Indianapolis. The new addresses are:

Retired Pay:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service

U.S. Military Retired Pay

8899 E 56th Street

Indianapolis IN 46249-1200

Annuitant Pay:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service

U.S. Military Annuitant Pay

8899 E 56th Street

Indianapolis IN 46249-1300

The old PO Boxes in London KY will remain open and all mail will be forwarded to the new address for one year. However, sending mail to the old address will add three to five days to the normal processing time.

The telephone and fax numbers are not changing.

Please copy and paste the following web address into your web browser for additional contact information: <https://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary.html>

Retired Pay
DFAS-Cleveland

Ron Jones

Post Service Officer
2017-2018

On the House

As we enter the Christmas season, let's not forget those that are less fortunate. When the Post asks for your donations, know that it is for a worthy cause, and that it is for Comrades that are not as fortunate as you. The Victory House visit donations of food, socks, t-shirts, snacks and toiletries were very much appreciated. I have included a picture of all the people that were present at the Post for this endeavor.



Thanks to you and those that went ahead to meet the group at the Victory House. Just a heads-up for future happenings: the Canteen Christmas party will be on December 23rd this year, and scheduled entertainment has been booked in the form of Vanessa Rae, DJ/Karaoke (some of you will remember her from the Halloween Party where we had fun, fun, fun), as well as a Chinese Auction. Attendees are encouraged to bring covered dishes. Also Thanksgiving Dinner – 11/23. Kitchen will be CLOSED November 23 & 24. We hope to see a large

turnout that day. Serving starts at 1300hrs. New Year's Eve Party is scheduled starting December 31, 6-12pm. Tickets are currently on sale for \$30 Advance and \$35 At the door. Ask your bartender for more details. The following is the schedule of events: 6-8pm – Happy Hour, 6-7pm – Social Hour, 7-8pm – Buffet Line OPENS (NO servers, NO Reserved Seating, except for band members and their family), 8-1 – OPEN Bar, 12 Midnight – Toast, After Midnight – Light Breakfast. Both bars will be CLOSED at 1pm. Complimentary car service will also be available. Last, but not least, the **House Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 6:30pm**. I know that's the day of the Joint/Membership meeting, but due to the Jan 1st being New Year's Day, and that people might still be out of town, the date is being changed, in the hope that we can at least have a quorum, and take care of House Committee business.

In closing, let me leave you with this word. Another word that I hear thrown around the Post, and that some might be losing sight of its meaning. After all folks we are all, and have been, in this together.

com·rade 'käm,rad,'kämred/

1. a companion who shares one's activities or is a fellow member of an organization.
2. a fellow soldier or member of the armed services.

Joe Aviles

House Committee Chairman 2017-2018

News from the MOC Seam Squirrel



The Turkey Shoot is rocking this year! We have a lot of new shooters out there who have made the Cootie Shack their evening home. They have nothing but praise for our little fundraiser. We're doing some side work for the VFW and have recruited a few new members. We'll eventually trap them in our Crummy nest and get them to our side as well. Muahahaha...

Time to rotate a few of those gravity deprived folks in space. On 14Dec is the Expedition 53 landing and on 17DEC Expedition 54 leaves. There are three to six members on board the Space Station at all times. It's pretty cool to think that these astronauts get along so well when they're from such different countries.

Now that we've managed to gain five pounds during Thanksgiving, it's time for all of the treats that come with Christmas! Another five or ten pounds for us to not even try to fend off. Remember there is also Christmas break for the local schools. Please be careful when driving because some children think the roads are an extension of their yards. We want Santa to stay busy this year.

The next Grand of SC will meet Jan. 26-28, 2018, in Spartanburg, SC. We will NOT be hosting a Hospitality Room at this Grand.

VFW Post 9539, 325 Carolina Drive Ext, Roebuck, SC. Hotel Info:

Sleep Inn, 501 S Blackstock Rd, Spartanburg, SC

864-595-4040, ask for Josh Lamontagne and mention VFW/MOC/MOCA

Register early!

Dates to remember:

12 Dec1931 - Cootie Scratch.

17 Dec1100 - VA Hospital Christmas party.

17 Dec-1300 - Children's Christmas party.

7 Jan-18 - VA Hospital visit.

19-21 Jan 18 - 5th District Supreme in Crystal River, FL

26-28 Jan 18 - Grand Scratch in Spartanburg.

With everything going on I'm sure I've forgotten to mention something. I'll make sure to never forget how much I appreciate all of you!

Our next meeting will be December 12th at 1931. See y'all there!

Anglia (George) Soza

Seam Squirrel

2017-2018

News from the MOCA President



I hope you had a great Thanksgiving with family and/or friends. Now we have to get ready for the Christmas holiday.

The weather was a little cooler and windy for the Veteran's Day Parade but we had a good turn out. There were more people along the parade route this year smiling, waving and saying "thank you". We had our VA Hospital visit before the parade. Thank you to all who participated in the visit.

On Sunday, November 12th, a group of us visited the veterans at the Victory House in Walterboro. We took donated items of socks, underwear, personal hygiene items, lap blankets, game books, neck wallets, etc. It was a great day for the clowns to put a smile on someone's face. Thank you to those who

donated or purchased items for this visit.

We would like to welcome three new members to our auxiliary: Denise Powers, Morgan Powers and Cody Miller. We are happy to have you with us.

The "turkey shoot" is having some fun, busy nights. We are doing great in our big fund-raiser this year. There are still some nights in December where we need volunteers to help with the concession. Colder weather is bringing out big crowds.

If you are planning to attend the December 12th meeting, bring a covered dish or finger food to share after the meeting for our annual Christmas fellowship time. Joint meeting time is 7:31 pm.

I am still waiting for more info on the Grand of SC meeting in Spartanburg on January 26-28, 2018. If you do not receive info by e-mail, and would like to, please give your e-mail address to me so we can put you on the list. We want you to stay informed of what is happening with Pup Tent 10 and Auxiliary.

The 5th Supreme meets in Crystal River, FL, January 19-21, 2018. More info will be given out at the December meeting.

Merry Christmas to you and your family. Wishing you peace, joy, happiness and a safe and Happy New Year!

Remember to "keep'em smiling in beds of white".

Sandy Rowland

MOCA President 2017-2018 Happy Holidays.

VFW National

CHECKPOINT



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Your November/December Checkpoint can be viewed at the link below.

Enjoy reading!

<https://vfw-cdn.azureedge.net/-/media/VFWSite/Files/News-and-Publications/Checkpoint/2017/2017-NovDec-Checkpoint.pdf>



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You Shop. Amazon Gives.

Thanks for choosing to make a difference!

Your purchases here at smile.amazon.com will support Veterans of Foreign Wars Foundation.

[See your impact](#)

Department of South Carolina

Department of South Carolina Mid-Winter Conference 15-18 February 2018

Greenville Embassy Suites

670 Verdae Blvd

Greenville, SC

864-676-9090

\$115 per night.

When calling let desk know you are with the VFW.

Council of Administration

February 17, 2018 9:30 am

Mid-Winter Conference

VFW at Work - Share Your Successes!

VFW Posts and Departments across the country are working hard to support America's troops and veterans. Now we're doing even more to help you spread news of your success!

"VFW at Work" is live! This special webpage spotlights grassroots success stories from across the nation.

Check it out at www.vfw.org/vfwatwork. Now we want to hear about your good work! Let us know how you're reaching out to America's heroes. It's easy to share stories from your Department or Post:

Email story ideas to success@vfw.org Or, you can submit your idea at: <http://www.vfwdepartmentresources.org/grassroots.asp>

If your story is selected for further development, you'll be contacted for an interview!

Julie McCollum

Administrative Assistant

VFW Development Department

816-968-2734

District 1 News

Happy Holidays one and all.

The District is currently running behind in membership from last year and we are currently 5th in the Department. Membership is down through out the VFW and CIN Harmon is asking for everyone to do what they can to help pull up our numbers.

Time is getting close for submission of Department awards for Post and Member and the District Volunteer award. Anyone can submit an award and all are encouraged to do so. See the Post Commander or Quartermaster for more information.

The next District meeting is March 4th at Post 3433 and will be the District awards banquet. Last year we had a full room and this year we are hoping for the same.

Remember all CoA's, Conference, Conventions and all District meetings are open to all members of the VFW. Come out to these meetings, network and enjoy a good time as well as learn about the VFW.

Wishing all a Happy and rewarding holiday season and please keep our soldiers who cannot be with their love ones and our hospitalized Veterans in your prayers.

Around the Post

The Post's General Membership Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm, in the ballroom at the Post Home; please plan on attending. Auxiliary Business meetings start right after the conclusion of the general meeting and the Comrades Business meeting starts at 8pm.



If you would like to receive the Newsletter by email, please contact us at ladsonvfw3433@gmail.com Email delivery is much faster than "snail mail", and it saves us the expense of printing and mailing.

To avoid an interruption in receiving your Post 3433 Newsletter, let us know if you have changed your email address.



We need help. If you can spare some time to give us a hand stop by and talk to Sarge or the Commander. The pay is terrible but the rewards of helping your post and veterans out weight the dollars.



Watch for posters and the VNN TV in the Canteen for news of upcoming events. Thursday is Taco night as well as Luck of the Draw darts and bowling all for the low price of \$5. Come on out and enjoy a good time with friends and comrades.



PEARL HARBOR DAY MEMORIAL SERVICE

Pearl Harbor Day Memorial Service
December 7, 2017 11:00 am— 12:00 pm
Cost: FREE
Phone: 843-881-5984

Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum
Phone: 843-884-2727
Address: [Google Map](#)
40 Patriots Point Road, Mt. Pleasant, 29464, United States





WREATHS *across* AMERICA

Join us on National Wreaths Across America Day

December 16, 2017

Each December on National Wreaths Across America Day, our mission to *Remember, Honor and Teach* is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as over 1,200 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea, and abroad.

A person dies twice: once when they take their final breath, and later, the last time their name is spoken.

When we lay wreaths on veterans' graves, we say
their names.

We encourage every volunteer who places a wreath on a veteran's grave to say that veteran's name aloud and take a moment to thank them for their service to our country. It's a small act that goes a long way toward keeping the memory of our veterans alive.

We are not here to "decorate graves." We're here to remember not their *deaths*, but their *lives*.

—Karen Worcester, *Executive Director of Wreaths Across America*

Saturday, December 16 at 12 PM - 1 PM -
Wreaths Across America Beaufort 2017
1601 Boundary St, Beaufort, South Carolina 29902



The Veterans' Voice

We are the voice that represents veterans everywhere and defends their rights and benefits. Our representatives stand for veterans every time. [Action Corps Sign-Up](#)

VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION UPDATE

VA Scheduling Now Available Online

http://www.va.gov/HEALTH/NewsFeatures/2017/November/Online_VA_Scheduling_Now_Available_Through_My_Heal.asp

You can now manage your primary care and certain specialty care VA appointments online at participating VA facilities. You will need a Premium My HealthVet Account to use online scheduling.



CHARLESTON VA MEDICAL CENTER UPDATE

News & Announcements

Charleston honors Veterans with parade

On Saturday, Nov. 11, the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center hosted its 17th annual Veterans Day Parade to honor Veterans and Service members across the Low country in downtown Charleston.

https://www.charleston.va.gov/CHARLESTON/features/Veterans_Day_parade2017.asp

Post Buddy Poppy Entry, 3rd place winner at Department



Anna Martin, Karen McClendon, Marietta Hill, Jackie Brooks and Judy Duncan at Tomb Trek 2017



Judy Duncan, Marietta Hill and Jackie Brooks at Tomb Trek 2017





Post 3433 Commander Todd Howard and Auxiliary Chaplain Bonnie Walton-Guiendon at Summerville Veterans Day Ceremony 2017



Past Auxiliary President Marietta Hill at the Post Veterans Day Celebration.



Commander Howard speaking at Summerville Veterans Day Ceremony. Auxiliary President Betty Gander and Commander Howard presented the wreath.



MOCA President/Past Auxiliary President Sandy Rowland, Auxiliary Conductress Dana Alves and Past Department President Shirley Houck relaxing after the Veterans Day luncheon at Post 3433.





Sr. Vice Greg Miller, MOCA President Sandy Rowland, Past Auxiliary President Judy Duncan and District 1 Commander and President Ted and Beth Tufts celebrate Veterans Day.



VFW Post 3433 Officers 2017 - 2018

Commander	Todd "Howie" Howard	President	Betty Gander
Sr. Vice Commander	Gregg Miller	Sr. Vice President	Betty Brewster
Jr. Vice Commander	Rob Zedenek	Jr. Vice President	Dana Alves
Quartermaster	Andrew Steanson	Chaplain	Bonnie Walton-Guiendon
Chaplin	Jay Johansen	Treasurer	Sandy Rowland
Judge Advocate	Edwin "Ted" Tufts	Secretary	Robin Pittman
Service Officer	Ron Jones	Conductress	Sandi Myers
Surgeon	Janet Chisolm-Richard	Guard	Randall Brooks
Adjutant	Robert Hill	Patriotic Instructor	Ellen Fulda
1 Year Trustee	Anglia Soza	Historian	Judy Duncan
2 Year Trustee	Edwin "Ted" Tufts	1 Year Trustee	Beth Tufts
3 Year Trustee	Joy Clark	2 Year Trustee	Mary Bain
		3 Year Trustee	Shirley Houck

Post Chaplain: Jay Johansen cojohansen@gmail.com	Auxiliary Chaplain: Bonnie Guiendon Walton waltonbonnie29@yahoo.com
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MOC/MOCA Officers 2017 - 2018

Seam Squirrel	Anglia Soza	President	Sandy Rowland
Blanket Bum	Joy Clark	Sr. Vice President	Judy Duncan
High Gimlet	Jennifer Hanshew	Jr. Vice President	Jo Ann Perritte
CCDB	Gary Gander	Chaplin	Carrie Conyers
Hungry Cootie	Jackie Brooks	Treasurer	Betty Brewster
Tight Wad 1	James "Smokey" Stover	Secretary	Betty Gander
Tight Wad 2	Norris Stevens	Conductress	Dana Alves
Tight Wad 3		1 Year Trustee	Ellen Fulda
Pill Pusher	Edwin "Ted" Tufts	2 Year Trustee	Sandi Myers
Jimmy Legs	Ralph Minnoe	3 Year Trustee	Karen McClendon
Shyster	Phil Cates	Guard	Marietta Hill
Sky Pilot	Robert Hill		
Provost Marshall	Jim McClendon		

Family Information Contact Sheets

We are being notified much too late, if we are notified at all, concerning the well-being of Post members. Usually this occurs when it is much too late for anyone to help or complete the appropriate actions. If something happens, please notify us as soon as possible about the illness, injury, or death of a Post member. For everyone's help and convenience, Family Information Contact Sheets are in an envelope in the Canteen. The information is passed to the appropriate Chaplain.



January 2018



Monthly meetings are the 1st Tuesday of each month. VFW business meeting starts at 7:30, AVFW meets right after and Comrades meet at 8pm.

- ◆ 1st Wed Night—Wings 6:00 to 7:30
- ◆ 1st Thursday –Bassmasters 7 pm
- ◆ S.A.M.S. 11am
- ◆ 3rd Tuesday – Spaghetti Night. 6:30
- ◆ 3rd Thursday –DAV 7:30
- ◆ 3rd Saturday –11:00 S.A.M.S. Mtg.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		2 VFW Business Meeting 7:30	3 6-7:30	4 Bass Masters 7pm	5 Auxiliary Steak 6:30	6
7	8 7:30	9 MOC/MOCA 7:31	10	11	12 Auxiliary Steak 6:30	13
14	15	16 6:30	17	18	19 Auxiliary Steak 6:30	20 S.A.M.S Mtg. 11am
21	22 7:30	23	24	25	26 Auxiliary Steak 6:30	27
28	29	30	31	House Committee Meeting Jan 2 before the Business Meeting.		

Merry Christmas!



December 2017

- ◆ Dec 7– Pearl Harbor Day
- ◆ Dec 14 – Tacos, Blind Draw Darts and Bowling
- ◆ Dec 16 - Wreaths across America Day.
- ◆ Dec 17 - Children's Christmas Party 1pm
- ◆ Dec 17 - VA Christmas Party - 11am
- ◆ Dec 23— Canteen Christmas Party
- ◆ Jan 16— Martin Luther King Bday

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Turkey Shoot - 4 Oct - 16 Dec.					1 No Steak	2
3	4 House Committee Mtn 7:00	5 VFW Business Meeting 7:30	6 6-7:30	7 Bass Masters 7pm Pearl Harbor Day	8 No Steak	9
10	11 7:30	12 MOC/MOCA 7:31	13	14 Tacos, Blind Draw Darts Bowling	15 No Steak	16 S.A.M.S Mtg. 11am Wreaths Across America Beaufort 10am
17 Children's Christmas Party 1pm - VA Christmas Party 11 AM	18	19 6:30	20	21	22 No Steak	23 Canteen Christmas Party
24 Christmas Eve	25	26	27	28	29 No Steak	30
31 New Years Eve						

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this newsletter. Without you, it would not be what it is. Stay connected and get your newsletter early via email by contacting the post at ladsonvfw3433@gmail.com or vfwpost@comcast.net

Ted Tufts—Newsletter Editor.