

Commander

Comrades,

I hope this newsletter finds you well. As COVID continues to trouble the world, we will strive to keep our environment as sanitary and safe as possible. We do not require the wearing of masks in our post. However, that will remain a personal option.

We will be conducting a Roadside Cleanup on Saturday, 1 Oct, at 9am. We had a great show of force for this during the last Cleanup, but we always could use some help with that. Our house Committee Meetings are the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:00pm. Monthly General Membership Meetings are held the 4th Monday at 7:15ish pm, after Bingo. Auxiliary Membership Meetings are the 4th Wednesday at 7pm monthly, as well. In addition, Breakfasts are the 1st Saturday from 8am to 11am for the Auxiliary and the last Sunday, same time, for the MOC.

We are hosting a Suicide Awareness Seminar on 4 Sept, 8 – 11 am. The Toro's are putting on a Fish Fry on 10 Sept, 11 am – 1 pm. 11 Sept at noon, we'll be doing a Burger Burn for Patriot's Day. The MOCA is hosting a Steak Dinner on 16 Sept from 5 to 7 pm. On 8 Oct, we are holding a Breast Cancer Awareness class at 11 am, with an ending time of around 5 pm. The Auxiliary's Membership Appreciation Dinner will be on 15 Oct, 4 – 7 pm. The 22nd and 23rd of Oct, we will be supporting Universal City with their Pumpkin Patch ... see the signup sheet for volunteer time slots. Finally, the MOCA State Homecoming Banquet is on 29 Oct, at 5 pm. We also will be participating in Randolph's Retiree Appreciation Day on Saturday, 29 Oct at 8 – 11 AM.

Our VPRs are as follows:

Victory Over Japan – 5 Sept, 6 pm
Patriot Day – 11 Sept, noon
POW/MIA – 19 Sept, 6 pm.
Enduring Freedom – 10 Oct, 6 pm
Women in Military Service – 17 Oct, 6 pm.
Beirut Bombing – 24 Oct, 6 pm

Be sure to look at the attached calendar to keep up with what's going on over the next two months. In addition, keep an eye on our Facebook page for VPRs, fundraisers and other events that pop up post newsletter mailing. I want to thank you all for your support and to those who volunteer their time assisting with Post Operational and Fundraising events.

I ask for your patience with our Canteen Manager, Bartenders, and Kitchen Staff, as we are short on employees. The Canteen Manager is working 6 to 7 days a week just to keep the kitchen open.

May the rest of this year continue to find us profitable, and increase our membership pool. Pray for our future and remember our past. Stay safe!

Alan K. Reams (Al)
Commander, VFW Post 4676

Auxiliary President

Thank you, team, for a fantastic first 60 days in office. After the past two months, I cannot wait to see what the next year has in store, and I know we have an action-packed next couple of months as we approach the holiday season.

Like our students who have returned to school this fall, our Auxiliary Officers have attended OTS training to ensure you have the best team. We learned how to work together to achieve our goal of serving our veterans, their families, and the community like it has never seen before. Our mission this year is to do more than ever for our veterans; however, this goal will be harder to achieve without your support and participation. We have tasks for every level of participation. If you cannot travel, let us know what you are comfortable with, and we will help you find a way to continue serving our veterans.

We are getting close to reaching our goal of 101% membership, and currently, we are at 82%. The growth closer to our goal means we have many new faces to welcome into our Post; if you do not recognize someone, please introduce yourself. If

you have not paid your 2023 dues, please do so quickly.

September is a significant month for Auxiliary. We will be hosting a Gold Star Family Celebration. This event honors the families whose veteran(s) did not come home and gave the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. If you know of a Gold Star Family, please let me know; we want to send them an invitation to let them know we are here to support them.

One way we can serve our veterans is to clip coupons. Please bring your unused manufacturer coupons into the Post and ask for them to be placed in the President's Mailbox. These coupons will be sent to Troupers for service members to use overseas.

VPRs are an excellent opportunity to bring the family, let our youth interact with members, and learn more about supporting our veterans. VPRs are listed on our calendar and are quick presentations to remember those who have served. For example, we will take time to remember the brave first responders who went to work on September 11th not knowing it was their last, and those who were inspired by the actions that took place that horrific day to join the military or become a first responder to protect and serve their communities.

It is back to school, and with that said, we are looking for youth members in our community to participate in our Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, Teacher of the Year, Creative Artist, Illustrating American Art Contest, and Get Excited for the Red, White, and Blue National Anthem singing contest. Please let your children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and neighborhood children know we have scholarships available for them.

We continue to seek new and creative ways to celebrate and support our Veterans, their families, and our community. Ideas are always welcomed, and please share your ideas with us.

October is when we take the time to remember our women veterans who have proudly served our country, please take time to send your favorite female veteran a note of gratitude this month. We will also honor you and your commitment to our veterans, and I hope you can join us for a great evening at our Membership Appreciation Dinner.

My goal is to keep the lines of communication open between VFW Membership and the Auxiliary. If I am not aware of an issue or situation, I cannot assist in navigating to a resolution. Please remember that Auxiliary business is not to be discussed in the Cantina or with the Cantina Manager. If you need assistance, have a concern, or need to know why, please contact a member of the Auxiliary Leadership team. We are happy to assist you.

I continue to invite you to participate in our upcoming events and meetings. Our organization, veterans, and community all benefit when you share your time and talents. Please let me know if you are interested in joining a committee or being a chairman. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated. Hope to see everyone at our monthly meeting on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 1900 hours.

Volunteers are always needed. If you are interested, please contact me at 210-508-5803.

1st Saturday of every month - Auxiliary Breakfast from 8 am- 11 am
Gold Star Family Luncheon Committee
Breast Cancer Awareness FUNdraiser Committee
Membership Appreciation Planning Committee

Remember, we work hard for our veterans, their families, and our community, and with many hands, we make light work and double the fun.

Jennifer Group
Auxiliary President

Chaplain's Corner

It is my solemn duty to report the loss of our Comrades Ron Tooker, Joe Baker, Leo V Gates, Harold I Gavitt and Dave Permenter Although we

will miss them here, please keep your thoughts and prayers with the families and friends as the Lord welcomes them to His happy pastures and reunites them with other loved ones that have passed. As we go forward, let us revel in those that are still with us and continue to do His work in our Post. I wish happiness and healthiness for all and am also looking forward to the beginning of the last quarter of the year. God, please bless us all.

Rob Henkel
Chaplain

September and October are filled with several opportunities to celebrate, recognize, remember, and assist our veterans and their families. Special dates include Patriot Day, National POW/MIA Recognition Day, Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day, and of course Columbus Day.

As we observe these holidays and all that they represent—we honor the value of life, those we loved and lost, our country's resilience, and the strength of the American spirit. Let us remember that America was not built on fear, but on courage. This is an excellent time to give thanks for all the blessings and freedoms we have in this land. May we also hold in special prayer each member of our Armed Forces, our veterans, their family members, and the families of those who have given the ultimate sacrifice so that our country may remain strong, united, and without defeat. May we thank God and all those brave souls instilled with the courage to fight for this land and its people!

September, National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, also reminds us to pay attention to the emotional wellbeing of our comrades and sisters; mental health is just as important as physical health.

Pray for those who are ill and those grieving. Pray for our first responders, law enforcement personnel, and our Armed Forces. Pray for our VFW auxiliary and our members. I challenge you to treat each other with the same love and respect we have for our veterans. National President, Jane Reape has asked us to remember our veterans, why we joined and what motivates us to continue to serve. Let's except the challenge to band together and do what is

best for our organization, post, and all veterans regardless of personal ease, comfort, preference or obstacles.

Chrystal Coble
VFWA Chaplain

Cootie Corner

Hey bugs listen up,

We continue to need your assistance with our breakfasts. If your concerned about being overworked, we need to get support from y'all, then, you know the old saying "Many hands make light work." So get off your butt and on your feet. Come out and support your Pup tent. Annual members, it's time to get you dues in.

PUP TENT 55-SEAM SQUIRREL
LD "Buck" Owens

As we begin the 2022/2023 year, the MOCA is eager to assist the MOC Pup Tent in promoting hospital work, keeping alive the spirit of optimism and humor; and in promoting the wellbeing of our parent organization. Locally, the auxiliary supports the needs of our veterans and their families at the Audie Murphy VA Medical Center, Frank Tejada Hospital - Floresville, Silver Tree Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, and Northeast Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center – San Antonio. Clowns visit patients, comfort items are handed out, hospital parties are attended, lap robes, afghans and other items are made and time is just spent in visiting and showing our veterans how much their service means to us.

In addition to hospital work, the MOCA supports the Supreme Scholarship program for medical personnel and the VFW National Home for Children. Our new Supreme President **Cathy Seippel**'s special national home project is the *music* program.

In order to support these programs, two fundraisers have been planned: a lottery steak night dinner on September 16th and MOCA Tailgate Party Package to be drawn on October 30th. For more information on these fundraisers, please contact Ways and Means Chairman, Rhonda Reams.

Canteen News

We are always looking for new volunteers. If you are interested in learning more about our programs, please speak to one of our members or Membership Chairman, Bobbie Rollins. MOCA meetings are held the last Sunday of each month at 12:30pm.

Remember it is **Dues** time! Please get your 2023 dues in!

We believe our veterans deserve the best and our proud to serve with VFW Post 4676 and Auxiliary!

Chrystal Coble
Uckishe 55 MOCA President

As we continue to struggle to staff our kitchen, we have decided to change the hours and days of operation. The new kitchen hours that will take effect Saturday, September 3rd are as follows:

Monday 11-7 full menu

Tuesday 11-7 Taco Tuesday only

Wednesday 11-7 full menu

Thursday Closed

Friday Closed

Saturday Closed

Sunday 11-6

I am truly sorry for the inconvenience, but I too have a family that I would like to spend time with outside of the Post. Due to the sky rocketing prices of food, we will have to raise the prices on a few items. We will try to have the new prices set by October 1, 2022. We will also be eliminating some items as supplies are depleted.

NFL kicks off on Sunday September 11th. We have the NFL Sunday ticket again this year. Wear your Jersey's to support your team and stop by the post for some cold beer and wings!! We will be having Bucket specials all season! Please see calendar for upcoming Canteen events.

Stay Safe and Thank a Veteran!

Canteen Manager
Rhonda Reams