



Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

General MacArthur Memorial Post 392

2408 Bowland Parkway

Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454-5207

(757) 486-5875

www.vfw392.org



2017 Membership Goal: 2,025

Current Status: 1,990 Members

Non-Smoking Facility - Outside Smoking Accommodations Available

DECEMBER 2016 - VOLUME 28, NUMBER 6

2016 - 2017 OFFICERS

Post Commander.....	Steven E. Graves	VFW Auxiliary President.....	Jennifer A. Winn
Sr. Vice Commander.....	Mark K. Winn	VFW Aux. Sr. Vice President	Dinah V. Devins
Jr. Vice Commander.....	Theresa J. DeChamplain	VFW Aux. Jr. Vice President....	Lorraine K. Crain
Quartermaster.....	John H. Phillips	VFW Aux. Treasurer.....	Ellen Stogsdill
Chaplain.....	William P. Moran	VFW Aux. Chaplain.....	Ingrid L. Epperson
House Committee Chairman.....	Peter A. Gebelein	VFW Conductor	Robert DeChamplain
Service Officer.....	Joseph G. Brady	Canteen Manager	Colleen Lewis
Surgeon.....	Robert Cordona	M.O.C. Seam Squirrel.....	Peter A. Gebelein
Judge Advocate	David R. Goldstein	M.O.C.A. President.....	Colleen Lewis



COMMANDER'S CALL

COMRADES AND SISTERS

"Don't say you don't have enough time, you have exactly the same amount of hours per day that was given to Helen Keller, Pasteur, Michelangelo, Mother Teresa, Leonardo da Vinci, Thomas Jefferson, and Albert Einstein"

(Albert Brooks)

December is here, and I got to say thank you to those who gave up some of their time for placing Flags out at the cemeteries on Veterans Day and for standing out in the cool air for our Buddy Poppie drive. It was well appreciated. We still have a long way to go to get the help we really need, but it's a step in the right direction. Our participation in the Veterans Day parade was not so good.

As long as I have been a member of this Post I have never seen this much lack of participation from

such a big Post the size of ours. I would love to see things turn around, and I hope it does because it's the people who care that keeps us going. As for the rest of the Post ... where are you?

I am not speaking of those who already worked their butts off for this Post to get us where we are today. They earned the right to relax. I believe we are doing them a great disservice by not continuing their efforts to make this Post one of the finest in the country. I believe we can be the best Post and there are many who also believe it.

We have the Christmas party coming up on the 3rd of December and are in the process of planning a new years eve party. I hope to see you all out here for a good time. If anybody would like to help in either party please see Dinah.

Let's remember our membership mission for the Veterans of ... *continued on page 2*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

(see any Post Officer for details)

- **Post Meeting:** Dec 6 at 7 PM. All members may attend
- **Post Christmas Party:** Dec 3, 6 PM, we could use servers, volunteers for clean up / set up
- **Children's Christmas Party:** Dec 18, 1-3 PM, we could use volunteers for events, clean up / set up
- **Christmas Dinner:** Dec 25, noon to 5 PM, servers, volunteers for clean up / set up
- **New Years Eve Party:** Dec 31, we could use servers, volunteers for clean up / set up
- **Angel Tree:** (see article under "Announcement" Section)
- **Christmas Food Baskets:** food donations, packing
- **American Red Cross:** Urgently need blood donors, call 1-800-448-3543
- **Recruit Members:** applications at the Post, see any Post Officer

POST 392 - NEEDS YOU!

Foreign Wars, which is to recruit, retain and mentor a stable membership base, including ALL generations of veterans. Which is well-versed in institutional Knowledge and actively involved at all levels of the organization. We MUST build a strong organization for the future.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- 12/1 Operation Southern Watch, Operation Maritime Intercept, and Operation Vigilant Sentinel (South West Asia) begin in 1995
- 12/5 United Shield and Operation Restore Hope (Somalia) begins in 1992
- 12/7 Pear Harbor is bombed by the Japanese in 1941
- 12/9 USMC storm Mogadishu, Somalia in 1992
- 12/16 WWII Battle of the Bulge begins in 1944
- 12/19 US invades Panama in 1989
- 12/20 Operation Joint Guard (Bosnia) begins in 1996
- 12/22 Operation Desert Thunder and Operation Desert Fox (South West Asia) end in 1998
- 12/25 Battle on T-Bone Hill (Korea) in 1952

NEW MEMBERS

I extend a warm welcome to the new members who were voted in at the last regular meeting:

New / Transfer/ Installment Life Members:

Scott A. De Vost, Charles L. Greenawalt, Dale A. Lyons

New / Transfer/ Re-Instated Annual Members:

Robert S. Pickering

Thank you for your service and welcome aboard!

BIRTHDAYS

May I wish a "Happy Birthday" to Charles E. Bledsoe, John K. Corley, Ronald C. Jones, Howard J. McCracken, Larry G. Peterson, Charles W. Runyon, Robert DeChamplain, Carol E. Frevele, Shirley M. Gaughan, Becky S. Massaro, Marcelle A. Myler, and 191 other fine Comrades and Sisters!

**Post Commander
Steven E. Graves**

commandervf392@gmail.com



SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Comrades, Brothers, and Sisters, I would like to start by saying thanks to all the volunteers that came out for putting the flags out and the support we got for the Veterans Day Parade. Would have been nice to see more Comrades out in the parade, but the ones that did come had a lot of fun.

Keep in mind that we have Winter Council for the Department of Virginia coming up 13th thru the 15th of January. Hope to see some new face from the Post at some or all the meeting. The meeting will be held at Fort Magruder Hotel and Conference Center Williamsburg, Virginia.

VA and Social Security Partner for Faster Service: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Social Security Administration (SSA) launched a new Health IT initiative that enables VA to share medical records electronically with Social Security Disability processors.

This secure process will save time and money, resulting in better service for veterans and dependents who apply for Social

Security Disability Benefits. For decades, SSA obtained medical records through a manual process. This new national initiative puts in place an automated process to obtain veterans' medical records entirely electronically.

"This SSA-VA partnership is another example of VA's leadership in interoperability efforts among federal partners," said VA Secretary, Robert McDonald. "Increasing federal partnerships to improve operation and resource coordination across agencies is among VA's 12 Breakthrough Priorities for 2016."

To learn more about VA health care, visit: www.va.gov/health

CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP

AWARDS

The following individuals have earned Continuous Membership Awards. If you are listed below, please attend the next Post Meeting to receive your lapel pin.

If you are unable to attend, contact any Post Officer. If your name has not been listed and you believe that an award is due, please contact the Quartermaster.

40 Years Continuous Service:
Sherman M. Jones

30 Years Continuous Service:
William J. Reha, Jack Hayes

25 Years Continuous Service:
Michael W. States, Robert L. Cardona

20 Years Continuous Service:
Donald L. Beem, Donald L. Wendt, Charles J. Dey

15 Years Continuous Service:
David J. Meers, Jeffrey A. Brewer, John N. Petersen, Richard N. Bass

10 Years Continuous Service:
Terryal R. Currin II, Theresa J. DeChamplain, John W. Dunlap, John E. Kuntze, Francis C. Moen,

Patrick O'Leary, Michael E. Pitts,
Brian J. Westcott

5 Years Continuous Service:

Robert R. Johnston, Sidney W.
Dingman Jr., Michael A. Petrillo,
Jeffery J. Ulfig, Patrick M.
Vivona, Thurlow N. Levan

*Thank you for your service and
congratulations!*

**SR. Vice Commander
Mark K. Winn**

svince@commandervfw392@gmail.com



JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Comrades and Auxiliary,
November was a very busy month.
Buddy Poppy dinner went well.
The Buddy Poppy distribution
weekend went well. Thank You to
everyone who volunteered.

The hustle and bustle of the
holidays are upon us, please
remember what December 25th
means. I would like to wish
everyone Happy Holidays and a
safe and Happy New Year.

Upcoming events:

- Saturday Dec 3rd Post
Christmas Party 6:00 P.M.
- Sunday Dec 18th Children's
Christmas Party 1:00 – 3:00
P.M.
- Sunday Dec 25th Christmas
Dinner 12:00 – 5:00 P.M.
- Saturday Dec 31st New Years'
Eve Party

Until next month, always
remember our Veterans and God
Bless America.

**Jr. Vice Commander
T.J. DeChamplain**

jvice@commandervfw392@gmail.com



QUARTER- MASTER

2017 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Annual dues are \$40.00. Annual
Members can pay their dues at
Post 392, online at vfw.org, or by
mail directly to:

VFW National Headquarters

Third Floor, Room 316

406 West 34th St.

Kansas City, MO 64111

(please include your membership #)

Consider changing your Annual
Membership to a Life Membership
and make a life long commitment
to serving your fellow service
members and Veterans. Life
Installment plan is available as an
option to the one time payment for
Life Membership.

E-NEWSLETTER

The Post Newsletter and
Calendar are available online for
free! To view them, go to
vfw392.org and click on the links
along the left side of the page.

On the Newsletter page, you can
sign up to receive the monthly
notification about the Newsletter,
Calendar of Events, and other Post
related communications by
clicking on the "Subscribe to the
VFW Post 392 Mailing List" link.

Ensure that you add the domain
"vfw392.org" to your address
book, it'll prevent the Post emails
from going to your SPAM folder!

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Members, we all need to
maintain a current address with the
VFW. So when your mailing
address changes, be sure to fill out
an address change form, and mail
it in, or drop it off at the Post.

The best method would be to
email it to the Post. If you drop it

off or email it, please remember to
include your telephone number
and email address!

Quartermaster

John H. Phillips

vfwpost392@gmail.com



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

MONTHLY BREAD

Almighty and ever present God,
guard the brave men and women
serving now in our military
services. Protect them as they
carry out their duties. Give them
unflinching courage to defend
with honor, dignity, and devotion
the rights and lives of those
imperiled by injustice. Encourage
them as they encourage one
another. May the power of Your
love and the presence of Your
Holy Spirit enable the troops who
are now serving away from home
to return safely.

Additionally, Lord, pour out
Your grace on those who wait for
the safe return of their loved ones.
Protect and strengthen the
families, friends, and significant
others left at home. Cause Your
peace, which surpasses all
understanding, to guard their
hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
Give them an extra dose of
wisdom, energy and faith to
engage in their daily duties and
tasks. Protect their hearts from
needless worry. May the
anticipated reunions be filled with
joy, love, and the presence of
Your Spirit. This we ask in the
name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

Suggested Reading: Psalm 91:14-15

HELP US TAKE CARE OF EACH OTHER

When you or a family member
falls ill, are injured, hospitalized,

or experience the loss of a loved one - *please* contact us *ASAP*! It is important that we extend our hand in anyway possible to aid and comfort our fellow Comrades and family in their time of need.

ILLNESS / INJURIES

Please read the Bulletin Board at the Post for most recent up-dates of Members on the Short Term Illness / Injury List.

The following members have serious, long term illness, or injury, requiring continuous care:

- **Leon A. Hickey**
(Farmville)
- **Joseph C. Palmer Sr.**
(Sentara Nursing Home,
Room 211)

TAPS

The following list honors and remembers our Post Veteran members in their recent passing:

- **Rodney E. Beckwith**
US Navy (Retired)
Passed: 22 October 2016
- **Ronald Boone**
Passed: 7 June 2016

At our monthly meeting, Draping of the Charter is conducted, and a prayer of solemn tribute is given on behalf of our departed Comrades. For they are now in the hands of our Heavenly Father.

Post Chaplain
William P. Moran
chaplainvfw392@gmail.com



AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Sisters, Brothers, I hope everyone had an enjoyable Thanksgiving.

Special thanks go out to all that participated in putting Flags out

and bringing them back in for Veterans Day at the local cemeteries! Thank to Fred Jennings, Judy Lupole, and all that participated in putting the Thanksgiving baskets together for the needy families.

We still NEED VOLUNTEERS for our recruiting opportunities with the Comrades, VA hospital, monthly Bingo, and also to help serve and take orders for Thursday / Friday night dinners. If you're able to help, please see Canteen Manager Colleen Lewis.

We are always looking for volunteers, so if you would like to volunteer or participate in any programs that the Auxiliary has: please contact me, any of the chair people, or any Officer. Any help you can provide benefits our collective goal - support our Veterans and our Military.

Now that Christmas is upon us, a few dates to remember are: December 3rd for the Post and Auxiliary Christmas Party. And December 18th for the Children's Christmas Party.

The Angel tree will be up. We have both children and Veteran names on it. If you're able to take an angel, please do, and return the items to the Post by the due date.

If you find yourself or any Post member in need of anything, please don't hesitate to contact the Chaplain or myself for assistance.

You the Auxiliary members & Comrades of Post 392 make a difference in the lives of our Veteran's and their Families with all the work you do each and every day. I'd like to extend a big thank and may God bless you all.

Please feel free to contact me if you need anything, at 721-0002 or the email below. I wish you all a

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

And please bring non-perishable food items to the December 5th meeting. It will enter you into a raffle for a bottle of wine or a box of chocolates!

VFW Auxiliary President
Jennifer Winn
jen-laux@cox.net



AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP

2017 ANNUAL DUES

Now is the time you can help our VETERANS by paying your 2017 dues. By remaining a member of this great organization you help our Veterans through our legislation. Our membership numbers count with our Representatives in Washington, D.C. Thank you for helping a Veteran by paying your dues today.

Send to: Ellen Stogsdill,
Treasurer, 2408 Bowland Parkway
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454

Just a reminder... if you are not a Life Member of our Auxiliary now is the time to consider becoming one. Life Membership will increase by 15% on January 1, 2017.

Please see myself or any Officer for the cost of becoming a Life member of our great organization.

Tina Brown
Ellen Stogsdill

CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP

AWARDS

The Sisters listed below are requested to attend the next regularly scheduled meeting of the VFW Auxiliary. Our Auxiliary President stands ready to decorate you with the awards indicated:

25 Years Continuous Service:

Nyrell V. Looney

15 Years Continuous Service:

Shirley A. Douglas

10 Years Continuous Service:

Cheryl Walton, Bonnie Walton,
Priscilla A. Myers, Dorothy L.
Moore, Suzabbe M. Kuntz

5 Years Continuous Service:

Terry Steinbaugh, Kathleeb A.
Halzack, Ingrid Fisher

*Thank you for your service and
congratulations!*

VFW Auxiliary Treasurer**Ellen Stogsdill**ellenstogsdill@cox.net**CANTEEN****CANTEEN HOURS****Monday-Thursday.... 1100-2200****Friday..... 1100-0000****Saturday-Sunday.....1100-2200**

*On Cootie Breakfast Sunday's the
Canteen opens at 1000*

NEW KITCHEN HOURS**Monday-Thursday.... 1100-1400**

Friday 1100-2200
only Appetizers available after 2100

Saturday 1200-1700

Sunday 1300-1800
*regular menu items not available
during any holiday or event dinner
specials (unless specified)*

**Kitchen will be closed on Dec
3rd, 18th, 22nd, 24th, and 25th**

CANTEEN MANAGER NOTES

December is a full month in the Canteen! Therefore, some changes needed to be changed. First, we will no longer be serving dinner specials on Thursday. We have dinner menus available for your dining pleasure! Plus, we will also be serving Pizza!

If there are any volunteers that

wants to cook a special meal on Thursdays, or if one of our organizations wants to have a fund raiser on Thursday night, we will accommodate! The Newsletter has to be submitted by the 15th of every month - so I must have any/all requests by the 14th please!

Whenever there is a Post function that serves food, the kitchen will automatically be closed! December 3, December 18th, December 22nd, 24th & 25th, the kitchen will be closed!

December 31st the Commander and the Canteen will be having a New Year's Party! This is a pot-luck party, so bring a dish to share! Crash will be our entertainment and we will also have Trivia night from 7-9 p.m.!! This is a casual, fun event for all of our members and guests!

I hope everybody has a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

WEEKENDS AT THE VFW

Start the weekend with Friday's **Social Hour Prices from 4-6 PM!** The kitchen's open with menu items, appetizers, and **pizza specials from 12-5 PM Saturday and 1-6 PM Sunday!**

The Canteen opens at 11:00 AM on Saturdays and Sundays (10:00 AM on Sundays when Cootie Breakfast is being served).

Come out and enjoy a cold beer or beverage and enjoy NFL and NASCAR on multiple big screen TV's. Bring the family - the Canteen is smoke free and Wi-Fi is readily accessible.

THURSDAY NIGHT DINNER

We are no longer serving Thursday Night dinner specials, but we have a dinner menu

available and pizza for your dining pleasure.

FRIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

Below is the entertainment for this month, come and enjoy the music with your friends every Friday from 7:00 to 10:00 PM:

<u>Dec 2nd</u> Crash Entertainment	<u>Dec 9th</u> TBD
<u>Dec 16th</u> TBD	<u>Dec 23rd</u> Jim Berry DJ
<u>Dec 30th</u> TBD	

CANTEEN SPECIALS**Friday: Shrimp Special**

6 - 9 PM

EZ Peel Shrimp are back & larger!
1/2 lb for \$6.00 or 1 lb for \$12.00

Saturday: Pizza Special

Saturday: Noon - 5 PM

12" PIZZA

homemade crust & sauce! cheese
& pepperoni \$6.00, additional
topping are 50¢ each

Sunday Football Menu

1 - 6 PM

<u>12" Pizza</u>	\$7.00 <i>Cheese and pepperoni</i>
<u>12" Supreme Pizza</u>	\$8.00 <i>cheese, pepperoni, sausage, onions, green peppers, mushrooms</i>
<u>Cheese Pizza</u>	\$6.75 <i>Additional toppings: 25¢ each</i>
<u>Hot Sausage</u>	\$3.00 <i>Served with grilled onions and peppers</i>
<u>¼ lb Hotdog</u>	\$2.75
<u>¼ lb Hamburger</u>	\$3.75 <i>Add cheese: 25¢</i>

If you have any comments or suggestions for our Canteen, please let us know! And thank you for your service!

Chairperson **Manager**
Kevin Graves **Colleen Lewis**

canteenmanager392@gmail.com



POST ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING

**All ads are paid advertisements,
and are not endorsed by the
Veterans of Foreign Wars**

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 392 is offering advertising space for our newsletter. We have a monthly circulation of over 2100. All ads must be submitted and approved by the Post prior to the 15th of each month.

If you are interested please contact John Phillips, Post 392 Quartermaster, for pricing and availability at (757) 486-5875.

ANGEL TREE

Christmas time is coming, and once again we will have the Angel Tree set up at Post 392. It is decorated from the heart - as every card hung on the tree contains a child's name and a Christmas wish.

Nothing is more precious than a child's excitement on Christmas morning, and nothing is more heartbreaking than their disappointed faces if their families are unable to provide gifts.

Your mission will be simple: take a card from the tree, purchase the item on the child's wish list, and bring it back to the Post.

The only difficult part of this mission is making sure the gift has the child's name card attached to

it, and is back at the Post **before December 17th!**

We have children and Veterans on our tree ... so please, take a card from the Angel Tree. Take two! Take pride in bringing a Merry Christmas to someone who could use our help this year. Come see how good it feels to put a smile on the someone's face!

Need Christmas Assistance?

If you, or you know of any active duty or veteran families in need of Holiday gift assistance, please see Fred Jennings or any Post Officer **prior to December 12th.**

SHOP WITH A VET

December ??, 10:00 AM
NAS Oceana Exchange

*(Please check on Post website for
updates on date and time)*

Post 392 is organizing the 7th annual "Shop with a Veteran".

Sometimes our military families fall on hard times. We've all been there. And around the holidays, it's that much more distressing. This outstanding program offers some holiday assistance by providing selected families in such situations, a chance to still bring a Christmas smile on their children's faces.

Our Post, in partnership with the Association of Naval Aviation, is giving some local Military children an opportunity to meet us at the NAS Oceana's Navy Exchange and purchase their own Christmas gift(s). The amount is still to be determined based upon the number of children and money available.

If you would like some additional information or would like to participate in "Shop With a Vet", please contact any Post Officer.

CHISTMAS DINNER

December 25th, 2015

Noon - 5 PM

*Free to Members and Non-
Members*

We're having our annual Christmas Dinner on the 25th from Noon - 5:00 PM. This dinner is free to all who attend. Come out and have Christmas dinner with your family and your fellow Veterans!

Volunteers Needed

We are asking for donations now of turkeys and pre-cooked spiral hams (these hams save cooking and carving time). Volunteers sign up sheets will be up soon for cooking, servers, clean up, etc. As well as a list of food items that can be donated.

Now is the time to become a part of this great tradition. Help make this upcoming Thanksgiving Dinner a success by setting aside food and / or time as a volunteer. It takes many volunteers to make this a success.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY & SANTA'S WORKSHOP

December 18th, 2016

1:00 - 3:00 PM (at Post 392)

Ages: 12 and under
Preregister: before December 16th

You, your children, and grandchildren are invited to join the festivities at Post 392 for this years Children's Christmas Party!

Santa is taking time out of his busy seasonal schedule to pass out some early (age appropriate) Christmas gifts.

There will be fun events, arts & crafts, snacks and drinks, and plenty for all to make a

memorable family holiday!

Auxiliary is sponsoring Santa's Workshop again this year, allowing the children to pick gifts for their parents, and festivities!

So please, to attend be sure to preregister your child on the signup sheets at the Post by the 16th of December. To preregister, you'll need the child's name and age, and you will need the parent's (or grandparent's) name and phone number.

We are in need of some adult elves (helpers) as well! For more information, contact any Officer.

CHRISTMAS GIFT BASKETS

Donations Needed

December brings us that time of year to reflect and be thankful for family, love, health, where we are, and what we have. It's also a time of giving. There are Military and Veteran families that have proudly served their country, but have fallen on hard times. Families that can not afford the traditional Christmas Dinner this year.

That's where we step in and give back to these families. We put together Christmas Gift baskets to provide for most of a traditional holiday dinner. It eases the budget burden, and lets those families know that we care.

We are asking donations of canned and boxed goods for the baskets. Please donate what you can. Just bring the items to the Post, where we have donation receptacles.

If you, or you know of anybody in need of assistance, please let Judy Lupole or any AUX Officers know! We keep everything confidential.

VFW POST 392 CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 3, 2016

\$20 per Person / \$35 per Couple
(if purchased in advance)

5 PM: Free Drink Social

6 PM: Dinner

7 - 10 PM: Dancing and DJ

Come out and sign up at the Canteen so you and your loved one can enjoy the Holidays with your comrades and sisters! Tickets can be purchased in advance from the bartenders at the Canteen for \$20 per person / \$35 per couple. If you decide last minute that your are able to go, the tickets can still be purchased at the door on Dec 5th for \$25 per person / \$40 per couple.

Enjoy the social hour with beer, wine, and mixed drinks (Happy Hour Prices), or BYOB if you so desire. Dinner will be chicken marsala, beef burgundy, roasted potatoes, seasonal vegetable medley, salad, rolls, and deserts.

Volunteers Needed

As with any event at the Post, we can always use some extra hands for set up, clean up, serving, etc. If you have some time and would like to volunteer, please contact Dinah Devins or any Post Officer.

NEW YEARS EVE PARTY

December 31st

6:00 PM 'til Midnight

Come out and sign up at the Canteen so you and your loved one can enjoy the New Year with your comrades and sisters at Post 392!

It's a Pot-Luck party, so bring a dish to share! Crash Entertainment will provide our entertainment for the night, and we will have Trivia Night from 7-9 PM!

Enjoy the social time with beer, wine, and mixed drinks, or BYOB. And bring in the New Year with your fellow Veterans!

MOC ANNUAL MEMBER CARDS

Membership Notice

Military Order of the Cooties Annual Membership cards are in! Please remember to submit \$30 to the CCDB as that will keep your membership current!

VETERANS CRISIS LINE

VA offers a network of support for all our Nation's Veterans and their families. Veterans in emotional crisis and their loved ones can call the free and confidential Veterans Crisis Line to connect with a qualified crisis counselor who can help.

Anyone who is concerned about a Veteran can also go to veteranscrisisline.net to access the confidential, anonymous online chat to connect with a responder and get support.

The Veterans Crisis Line, online chat, and text are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to all Veterans and their families, even if they are not registered with VA or enrolled in VA health care.

Phone: 1-800-273-8255

Web: veteranscrisisline.net

Text Message: 838255

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

From Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen Essay Contests

A very special 'THANK YOU' goes to those members from the Post and Auxiliary who helped with the judging of the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Essays. We had a total of 70

essays for Voice of Democracy (grades 9 thru 12) and 86 essays for Patriot's Pen (grades 6 thru 8). Those who helped and gave up anywhere from one to several days were greatly appreciated.

The following are considered 'Volunteers Extraordinaire': Ann Marie Brothers, Carol Tippin, Arlene Goldstein, Denise Moran, Beth Moynihan, MaryAnn Brady, Joseph Brady, Kenny Golden, Nuvia Rivera, and Hipolito Camacho.

All the judging has been done for Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen. The judges did a wonderful job and the following are winners:

Voice of Democracy

'My Responsibility to America'

First Place: Samantha Miller, Ocean Lakes High School, Grade 12 (This essay was sent on to District for judging.)

Second Place: Danielle Hart, Ocean Lakes High, Grade 12

Third Place – Bhavik Patel, Ocean Lakes High, Grade 11

Patriot's Pen

'The America I Believe In'

First Place: Valentina Vedia, St. John the Apostle School, Grade 7 (This essay was sent on to District for judging.)

Second Place: Lewis Mikesell, St. John the Apostle School, Grade 7

Third Place: Margaret Bonvie, St. John the Apostle School, Grade 7

Congratulations to ALL!!

**Scholarship Chairman
Sue Sowers**

STATE OF VIRGINIA VETERANS AFFAIRS REPRESENTATIVE

Please welcome **Virginia Pauley** as our new local Veterans Claims Representative!

We look forward to working with her concerning our VA questions and interests. She is available weekdays at her Virginia Beach office:

Pembroke Office Park
287 Independence Blvd.
Pembroke Two, Suite 130
Virginia Beach, VA 23462
Office: (757) 552-1884
Fax: (757) 552-1882

virginia.pauley@dvs.virginia.gov

AMERICAN RED CROSS

Donors Needed

American Red Cross's Mid-Atlantic Blood Services Region serving southeastern Virginia has issued an urgent request for blood. All blood types are needed.

If you are able to donate, please do so and let MOCA Hospital Chairman, Gail Payne, know at: gail101@cox.net. Recording the number of donors reflects in our community services.

www.redcrossblood.org/midatlantic
1-800-RED-CROSS
(1-800-733-2767)

NOTARY PUBLIC

The following Post members are commissioned as Notary Public's in the Commonwealth of Virginia:

- Bob Duvall
- Joseph G. Brady

They are authorized to legally notarize documents such as Power of Attorney, Bill of Sale, Will, Living Will, etc. Please check with the Post for an appointment.

Be aware that under VA code the notary must acknowledge:

- Signer must personally appear before the notary
- Signer is positively identified
- Signer must affirm under oath the accuracy of the document.

Acceptable Forms of Identification:

To be acceptable, the ID must be one of the following and current:

- Driver's license or State issued ID card
- U.S. Passport
- Foreign Passport (INS validated)
- Driver's license issued in Mexico or Canada
- U.S. Military ID Card.

We do not rely on Social Security cards or photo ID cards issued by non government entities. Under the law the notary has the right to refuse, if he /she suspects anything may be false or wrong.

COOTIE BRAEAKFAST

Breakfast every Sunday
(No Breakfast Dec 25th)

8:30 - 11:00 AM

Where else can you have a fantastic breakfast with family and friends ... and know that all the proceeds go directly to support our local hospitalized Veterans? Please mark your calendars for Sundays to come and join us for a wide variety of breakfast foods, meats, eggs, fruit, and more. There's always coffee, or maybe have something a stronger if you wish. You won't be disappointed!

\$8.00 per Adult, **\$3.00** per children ages 6-12, it's **free** for ages 1-5 and for WWII Vets!

Volunteers Needed

We could still use volunteers. You don't have to be a Cootie to volunteer, we welcome anyone who wishes to join us. We are all volunteers working for a most worthy cause. Every penny we make goes to our hospitalized Veterans. In addition to the work, we have a lot of fun and make some great friends. If anyone is willing to help us, please contact

Cooties or any Post Officer.

DELIVERING THE HOLIDAYS

TO MILITARY SERVICE

MEMBERS

US Postal Service Recommended Mailing dates

Ensuring those serving in the nation's armed forces and diplomatic service receive their presents, care packages and cards in time for the holidays is a priority for the USPS and for friends and family members of military and diplomatic personnel serving their country around the world.

To send packages to loved ones serving in the military abroad, the Postal Service offers a discounted price of \$16.75 on its largest Priority Mail Flat Rate Box. The price includes a \$2 per box discount for mail sent to APO/FPO (Air/Army Post Office/Fleet Post Office) destinations worldwide.

Priority Mail Flat Rate Boxes are available at no cost at local Post Offices and online at shop.usps.com. Postage, labels and customs forms can be printed online anytime using Click-N-Ship at usps.com/ship.

To ensure timely delivery of holiday wishes by Dec. 25, the USPS recommends that cards and packages be sent to military APO/FPO addresses overseas no later than the dates listed in the chart.

Please note that Priority Mail Express Military Service is available to selected military Post Offices. Check with your local Post Office to determine if this service is available to an APO/FPO address.

Parcel Airlift Mail (PAL) is a service that provides air transportation for parcels on a

space-available basis. PAL is available for Standard Post items not exceeding 30 pounds in weight or 60 inches in length and girth combined. The applicable PAL fee must be paid in addition to the regular surface price for each addressed piece sent by PAL service.

Please remember when packaging: Do not write the country name where the service member is stationed in the address, include a return address, and inside the box, include the service member's name and address as well as the sender's name and address on an index card in case the shipping label gets damaged in transit.

Parcel Airlift Mail (PAL)	Priority Mail	First-Class Mail Letters and Cards	Priority Mail Express Military Service	Military Mail Addressed To and From
2 Dec	9 Dec	9 Dec	16 Dec	APO/FPO/AE ZIPs 090-092
2 Dec	2 Dec	2 Dec	N/A	APO/FPO/AE ZIP 093
2 Dec	9 Dec	9 Dec	16 Dec	APO/FPO/AE ZIPs 094-098
2 Dec	9 Dec	9 Dec	16 Dec	APO/FPO/AA ZIP 340
2 Dec	9 Dec	9 Dec	16 Dec	APO/FPO/AP ZIPs 962-966

The USPS has a free Military Care Kit based on the items most frequently requested by military families. The kit contains four flat Rate Boxes, Priority Mail tape, Priority Mail address labels, and appropriate customs forms.

To order the kit, call 800-610-8734. Guidelines for packing, addressing and shipping items to U.S. troops can be found at usps.com/ship/apo-fpo-dpo.htm.

CORRECTIONS

Last months Newsletter provided the updated emails for the Post and the Auxiliary. Please note that the Quartermaster / Post email was incorrect. This error has been correct for this newsletter. We apologize for any issues or inconveniences this error may have caused.

We welcome any comments, suggestions, or complaints about errors that warrant correction.

They can be directed to any of the Post 392 Officers, or email them directly to the Newsletter Chairman at mcullen4@live.com, or to the Webmaster at webmaster@VFW392.org



GENERAL MACARTHUR

MEMORIAL POST 392

Wishes You All:

Our Active Duty Service Members at home and abroad,
Our Veterans and their families,
The families of our Veterans who are no longer with us,
Our Comrades and Sisters,
Our Family and Friends:

**HAVE A SAFE NEW
YEARS DAY AND A
MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

