



## VFW POST 445 and AUXILIARY

*November 2019 Newsletter*

### COMMANDER'S COMMENT

#### **Comrades, Auxiliary and Supporters**



We are nearing the completion of repairs inflicted by Dorian. Kevin of Keating Roofing thinks they should complete the installation of new Mansard roof panels by the end of the week. Our Canteen has resumed normal operation while cosmetic work is ongoing in the office and Ladies room. Gerry has salvaged many of the Memorial ceiling tiles and reinstalled them; however, we are still in possession of many tiles which are damaged you are welcome to sort through and reclaim yours if you'd like. We managed to stay current with expenses through this period with your support and donations. We are currently trying to acknowledge all those Posts, Auxiliaries and Supporters to come to our aid. We are preparing plans for a formal reopening in early December at which time we will formally recognize all our Donors.

The winner of our Life /Legacy drawing was Christopher Saddlemire #239. At the close of our membership meetings we hold a drawing the winner of which if present will be awarded a Life Membership or if already a Life Member a Bronze Legacy Membership both of which provide residuals to our Post

God Bless America and Our Veterans

Jim



# VFW AUXILIARY

UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

## MADAM PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:

The Post is now open after extensive repairs due to the hurricane damage. Thank you very much to everyone who donated to the GoFundMe page I set up at [gf.me/u/vgujta](https://gf.me/u/vgujta) in order to provide funding assistance to the Post. At our October meeting, the Auxiliary voted to donate \$2,000 to the Post as well for needed repairs.

Please come and support our Auxiliary ham dinner on Friday, November 15 at 6:30 p.m. We will be proving the Ham and our Auxiliary members will be providing potluck dishes and desserts.

The next meeting of the Auxiliary will be Thursday, November 14. Please join us.

Thank you everyone for your help and support! God Bless our Troops past, present and future, the United States of America, the VFW and all of you!

Auxiliary President Joyce Simmons

## **Fisher House Charleston's Good Will Ambassador Spoke and Did a Book Signing for VFW Post 445's Vietnam War 50<sup>th</sup> Commemorative Year Ceremony!**

The James Island, SC Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 445 held a general membership meeting and **50<sup>th</sup> Commemorative Year of the War in Vietnam Ceremony**, on Saturday, October 12, 2019, at 1:00 pm. Our volunteer Fisher House Charleston Good Will Ambassador, Larry Dandridge was the keynote speaker and did a book signing for the solemn event. Larry provided some memory stirring pictures of Army helicopters in action in Vietnam, a 1968 model Army flight helmet, an old bugle, a display of his books, and a memorable talk. He talked about our great local VA Medical Center, the Miraculous Fisher House Charleston, the Friends of Fisher House Charleston, the Helicopter War in Vietnam, and the *BLADES OF THUNDER (Book One)*, which Larry wrote to help raise \$\$\$\$ for Fisher House.

VFW Post 445 had recently awarded Larry Dandridge with a free membership to VFW Post 445 for his volunteer work with military men and women, veterans, and their families. He works through the Ralph H. Johnson VA, Fisher House Charleston, the Friends of Fisher House Charleston, the Association of the US Army (AUSA), the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), the American Legion, the Naval Order of US, the Surface Navy Association, the Daughters of the American Revolution, and many other patriotic organizations to support our veterans. Larry is a Patient Adviser at the VA, a VSO trained volunteer VP for Veteran Affairs with AUSA, a well-known Low Country SC author. He wrote an award winning and all five-star reviewed, military history, non-fiction, and action book about the US Helicopter War in Vietnam in 1968 and 1969. Larry's over 150 meet-the-author events, speeches, and book sales, in the past three years, have raised more than \$68,000.00 for Fisher House Charleston.

VFW 445 is a very active Post that includes veterans and their families supporting our wonderful Fisher House Charleston and Friends of Fisher House Charleston, our terrific Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center, and our military men and women, our veterans, and their families. James Island Commissioner and VFW Post 445 member Marilyn Clifford did a wonderful job singing the National Anthem. Marilyn's song, the posting of the POW/MIA Flag and testimony of a Flight Nurse, the Invocation, the

Pledge of Allegiance, the presentation given by US Army LTC (Retired) Larry Dandridge, and the entire ceremony was moving and so appreciated by all who attended. The formal ceremony ended with Larry Dandridge presenting the VFW 445 Post Commander, Jim Barger and Post Chaplain, Chuck Blankin with a Fisher House Charleston Coin, Patch, and Magnet and sincere thank you. Pictures of that presentation are attached to this article.

After the formal ceremony, a delicious lunch of pulled pork, macaroni and cheese, beans, red rice, and much more was provided by Post 445. A band was also there to provide entertainment. Perhaps the highlight of the event was the Patriotic Video produced by Mr. Gary Goldman of FM 9.3 showing the highlights of the ceremony with music. You can view and listen to that provocative and beautiful video by going to <https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipMmFhTte6ljoKrdAoHITjl5VxTgLZhup8RYVM2KQPY9-K3qGrK5NcpL4Jt9-bmB-A?key=dmNFTFVCWTFNSkVZMVNFTUtHN3dnZHhINk5sdINn> .

# VFW 445 AUXILIARY

## Ham Dinner

Pot Luck Dishes, Rolls & Dessert

Friday, November 15, 2019

6:30 p.m.

\$11.00



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					SPAGHETTI DINNER BY ANGEL & DANNY	
					KARAOKE	
BREAKFAST BY DANNY & GERRY ABATE MTG 1:00 PM	POOL TOURNAMENT AT VFW 7:00 PM		WINGS AND THINGS BY DANNY MUSIC BY SUGAT & DAVID B		DINNER BY PAIGE & CO MUSIC BY NIGHT SHIFT	
BREAKFAST BY DANNY AND DOUG	VETERANS DAY CEREMONY 11:00 LUNCH AT NOON MUSIC AT 1:00 PM	SUPPORTERS MEETING 6:00 PM GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 7:00 PM	WINGS AND THINGS BY ROSS KARAOKE	AUXILIARY MEETING 7:00 PM	AUXILIARY DINNER HAM AND POTLUCK KAREOKE	
BREAKFAST BY COMMANDER & CO.	POOL TOURNAMENT AT VFW 7:00 PM	HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING 6:00 PM	WINGS AND THINGS BY BEN MUSIC BY SUGAT & DAVID B		DINNER BY PAIGE & CO MUSIC BY NIGHT SHIFT	
BREAKFAST BY GREG & DANNY STEAK & EGGS	POOL TOURNAMENT AT LEGION 7:00 PM		WINGS AND THINGS BY GERRY MUSIC BY SUGAT & DAVID B	THANKSGIVING DAY OPEN AT 2:00 PM DINNER AT 3:00 PM		

# NOVEMBER

2019

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30	31	29	30	31						

OCTOBER 2019

DECEMBER 2019

## NOTES:

BREAKFAST SERVED

9:00 – 11:30 AM

WING NIGHT HOURS

5:30 – 7:30 PM

FRIDAY DINNER HOURS

6:30 – 8:00 PM

