



HAPPY EASTER

"Easter is God's promise of the renewal of life"

VFW POST AND AUXILIARY 445

NEWSLETTER

1639 CAMP RD., JAMES ISLAND, SC

843-795-9419



COMMAN DERS COMMENT

Comrades and Auxiliary

We will be holding nominations for Post Officers at our April Regular Membership Meeting. Our annual Post elections will be held immediately thereafter to allow Department ample time to produce the Commanders book for the coming year. If you intend to seek a particular office or vote for an individual whom you support, I urge you to attend this meeting. This is your chance to participate in the operation of our Post.

We are still 14 members short of achieving 100% in membership, once again I ask that you lend a hand in helping us achieve this goal. I have asked our Vice Commanders for their assistance in contacting members via the telephone in the hopes of having them renew their membership at this time.

Construction in front of the Post is moving along?? and in anticipation of losing a number of parking spaces we have opened up the rear of the building to allow additional spaces there. We ask that temporarily you enter on the right and exit on the left. It may change but for the immediate future we ask that you observe the one way in and out to avoid confusion.

We are continuing to assist Veterans where and when we can. Auxiliary President Judy Spencer and myself attended a veterans fair at

Charleston Southern University on March 22. Vice Commander Jackie Hall and Auxiliary Trustee Barbara Barger were also present. We will have a presence at the Low Country Harley Davidson Veterans fair on April 22 in North Charleston. We would welcome member participation in this event.

Congratulations to Angel and Montana for being our March recipients of Post 445's "Appreciation of your Help" award.

Vice Commander Jackie Hall has been appointed as Liaison to our VFW Auxiliary.

God Bless America and the VFW

Jim



- ♦ ELECTIONS THIS MONTH - if you are a member and want to impact how your Post and Auxiliary are run - please come to the respective meeting and vote; better yet, run for an office.

Otherwise.....



DINNER ANYONE?

April 7— Fish fry - with OCEAN DRIVE

April 15—Abate Spring Fling

April 21—Auxiliary Dinner—Prime Rib



If you missed our March FREE Dinner—you missed a good one! Some of the comments were “Awesome spaghetti” “Incredible Peach Cobbler” and of

course, Ocean Drive was terrific and played some of the best music ever!

We even had Marinara sauce for our vegetarian friends and those who gave up meat for Lent.

Oh well, maybe next time. There will be another....

MOLLY'S ADOPT A SAILOR

In March, we shipped 6 boxes of various items to the Air Force troops deployed to Africa and the Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron 78, the Blue Hawks deployed on the USS Lake Champlain. Thanks to the generous donations of our Auxiliary, Post, and office colleagues of Joyce Miles.

Way to go, people!

VETERAN'S FAIR CHARLESTON SOUTHERN

There were several employers seeking applicants at the Fair, as well as several resources for Veterans and their families. Listed below are some of them.

HIRING:

U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

cbp.gov/careers

Border Patrol Agents

CBP Officers

Air and Marine Agents

Must be a U.S. Citizen

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRISONS

Multiple positions from Accounting, Medical, Correctional Officer, Education, Food Service, General contracting, etc.

Contact: www.bop.gov

Must be a U.S. Citizen

RESOURCES:

Healing Waters Fly Fishing

For disabled Vets or on active duty receiving treatment for a disabling condition.

Contact: Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing

PHWFFCharleston@gmail.com

Walter Shockley 740-397-5113

CHARLESTON SMFC CENTER 68 Hagood Ave., Charleston, SC 29403

Any matters related to your Service, including, but not limited to:

VA Claims Assistance and/or compensation

Employment Services

Medical Issues or Documents

Legal Service Referrals

Housing Assistance and VA Home Loans

Multiple numbers were listed - but the Veteran Advisor number is 843-864-8432

Editorial:

I don't know about you folks, but I grew up in a "steel valley" family where Unions were a constant threat to our family, because my Dad was a financially informed foreman in the Hot Strip Mill who tried to convey to his men the financial negatives of striking for more money, instead of negotiating and remaining on the job. On more than one occasion he came home wounded by a Union zealot.

In addition, throughout the years, more than one of my friends who belonged to various Unions were treated unfairly by the Union and did not receive promised benefits.

Therefore, I have a negative opinion of Unions.

The following article appearing in the current issue of VFW Action Corps Weekly made my blood boil - why do our VA employees spend any VA time on Unions?????

Hearing on Use of Union Time:

"On Tuesday, the House Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing to discuss how much time VA employees should be allowed to spend on union activities, known as official time. Subcommittee members argued whether official time detracts from VA's ability to provide care to veterans or if it serves to improve quality of care. AFGC Local 390 President Shirley Parker Blommel testified that she uses official time to address problems at the St. Cloud VA Health Care System which interfere or impede delivery of care to veterans. VA supported a bill introduced by chairman Arrington which would limit how much time VA employees can spend on official time to ensure VA health care personnel can spend more time caring for veterans rather than union duties"

Our VFW and other Veteran organizations do

a terrific job on the Hill, fighting for our Veterans rights and care. Why should any employee of the VA be allowed to spend VA time on Union duties which cannot be tracked efficiently to insure "what" they are actually doing and "when".

Now I realize this may not be your opinion of Unions - but we spend a huge amount of time and money supporting our Veterans (and do so with love) and I resent any of the VA time (our dollars) going toward Union duties.

If you object, write your Congressmen, Lindsay Graham and Tim Scott.

COMMENTS ARE WELCOME!

VA EVENTS AND NEWS:

BARRACKS TO BROADWAY

Citadel cadets will be performing "Barracks to Broadway" on **Wednesday, April 12 from 6:30-8 pm** in the Mark Clark Auditorium on the Citadel campus. The cadets will be singing a variety of Broadway songs from *Les Miserables*, *Hamilton*, *South Pacific*, and more!

This event is **free for seniors and military (including veterans)** as part of an effort to increase access for all to the arts. The auditorium is handicapped accessible and has an elevator. Cadets will be on hand to serve as ushers and to help all guests. If you have a bus, there is space to pull up right in front of the auditorium to drop off guests.

Also note that this is open to the general public so if members of your staff and their families and friends would like to come, please let me know those numbers as well. If you have any questions, please

contact *Tiffany Reed Silverman, Fine Arts Program Director* on her cell phone at [843 532-5227](tel:843-532-5227).



Our Charleston County VA Office is in partnership with Volvo, Prudential and the College of Charleston North Campus **with an employment hiring event scheduled for April 4, 2017.**

The employment hiring event is being offered to Veterans, Military Men and Women that may be in transition from military to the civilian world looking for employment, as well as the military family members seeking employment. The Hiring Event will host up to 20 companies with available employment opportunities.

CONTACT: Cynthia M. Busby, Deputy Director.
Charleston County Veterans Affairs. 4045
Bridgeview Drive Suite B154, North Charleston,
SC 29405 [843-974-6360](tel:843-974-6360) Fax: [843-745-2354](tel:843-745-2354)
cbusby@charlestoncounty.org

Military Family of the Game

CHARLESTON RIVER DOGS are looking for 13 active or retired military families to treat to a premium experience in their new Club Level as part of their Military Family of the Game promotion. Call 843-577-3647 or email BEN ABZUG babzug@riverdogs.com

Goose Creek Naval Weapons Station (PIV Card Registration)

All volunteer PIV or equivalent cards (badges) need to be registered in the Navy's DBID System at the Visitor's Center (1650 Red Bank Rd, Building Number 3) to have access to the base. The Visitor's Center is open from 6 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday - Friday. This registered PIV gate access will be enforced starting

Monday, April 3. **You MUST have your card registered to have access to the clinic.** Every time a new card is issued, that card will have to be re-registered. If you forget your card, the Visitor Center can issue you a one day pass to prevent you from having to retrieve the card before getting access for the day.

Please direct any questions or concerns to [Jared Jones](#).

Our Veterans who have moved into housing need following items to help set up their new places.

**Queen comforters, sheets
Cleaning supplies**

If you can help with these items, please bring them to the Post and we will deliver.

POST OF the PAST....

Some of our Past events in history:

Mardi
Gras
2017



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Angel & Montana receiving monogrammed shirts in appreciation of valued service to Post 445 and Auxiliary.



USS YORKTOWN—Pearl Harbor memorial 2016



Charleston Southern Univ. Veterans Fair



3 Chefs again.....



PRIME RIB - APRIL 21, 2017!!!!

Served by your Auxiliary at

Post 445

Menu includes:

Baked Potato w/sour cream & butter

Grilled asparagus

Broccoli Salad

Dinner rolls

Desserts

Music provided

Cost: \$18

Please sign up at the Post so that we may insure everyone has a meal. Since we have seating for about 60 people—early entry is encouraged. Guests are welcome!



We had Karaoke at the Post last night March 31st. It was a blast! Everyone got up and sang (?) some could, some couldn't - but everyone had a great time. Hope you make it to the next one.



Your Post 445 needs your help. With elections coming up - Post 445 needs its Veterans to step up and volunteer for one of the Positions currently available. Please attend the meeting at the Post on the 11th to vote and call Jim Barger at the Post or on his cell 843-973-1239 to put your name in.