

VFW POST 445 & AUXILIARY

1639 CAMP RD. ~ JAMES ISLAND, SC ~ 843-795-9419



NOVEMBER 11, 2017

Remember – Veterans Day honors ALL veterans, both dead and living. It's a day to honor all who have served in the military and a great opportunity to say, "thank you" to all our veterans and their families.

Chaplain Jim Higgins wrote the following article; LSA Anaconda at the Ballad Airport in Iraq, north of Baghdad.

I recently attended a showing of 'Superman 3' here at LSA Anaconda.

We have a large auditorium that we use for movies as well as memorial services and other large gatherings. As is the custom at all military bases, we stood to attention when The National Anthem began before the main feature. All was going well until three-quarters of the way through The National Anthem, the music stopped.

Now, what would happen if this occurred with 1,000 18-to-22-year-olds back in the States?

I imagine that there would be hoots, catcalls, laughter, a few rude comments, and everyone would sit down and yell for the movie to begin. Of course, that is, only if they had stood for The National Anthem in the first place.

Here in Iraq, 1,000 soldiers continued to stand at attention, eyes fixed forward. The music started again, and the soldiers continued to quietly stand at attention.

Again, though, at the same point, the music stopped.

What would you expect 1,000 soldiers standing at attention to do? Frankly, I expected some laughter, and everyone would eventually sit down and wait for the movie to start.

No! You could have heard a pin drop while every soldier continued to stand at attention.

Suddenly, there was a lone voice from the front of the auditorium, then a dozen voices, and soon the room was filled with the voices of a thousand soldiers, finishing where the recording left off: "And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air, gave proof through the night that our flag was still there. Oh, say, does that Star Spangled Banner yet wave, o'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave."

It was the most inspiring moment I have had in Iraq, and I wanted you to know what kind of U.S. Soldiers are serving you! Remember them as they fight for us!

God Bless America and all our troops serving throughout the world.

In this month of Thanksgiving – Veterans Day sometimes gets shifted to the side. But our Vets are ever vigilant in their protection of this Country and our freedoms. Observance of Veterans Day through your VFW Post ceremony is one way we can show our appreciation of their service.



COMMANDER'S COMMENT:

Comrades, Auxiliary and Supporters

Y'all deserve a huge well done for your support of our hurricane "Harvey" fund drive. The final sum donated for Hurricane Harvey was Fifteen Hundred (1500.00) Dollars to the relief fund of the Post in Rockport, Texas. Their Post Home was destroyed by "Harvey" and

while this sum won't replace their building, it was sent in the spirit of Veterans helping Veterans and our Communities.

I attended District 1 meeting in Beaufort on Saturday last and the emphasis was on membership. I hope we all realize that our very existence hinges on this fact, for without which, we will be unable to assist our Veterans or our Community. Help us! If your friends or neighbors are eligible ask them to join us.

A representative of The National Cemetery gave an excellent presentation. The VA is accepting registrations from Veterans who desire to be interred in a National Cemetery. This would be a benefit to families in making final arrangements for loved ones since the VA provides the plot and headstone. You can access the application on the VA website by clicking the Cemetery icon.

Our annual joint celebration of Veterans Day will be November 11 commencing at 1100 hours. See you there.

God Bless America and the VFW

Jim



October Meeting Minutes Highlights

Full minutes are posted on the Bulletin Board (Blue)

Our new Service Officer, Nancy Bloodsworth, was sworn in at the October meeting. Nancy is an accredited claims specialist with a strong passion for assisting veterans. Annie will continue to work with her on service projects for both veterans and our community.

Service Notes

- October was a busy month for our Post! We received several calls from veterans and family members needing assistance. Nancy handled three calls concerning benefits/claims. We were able to connect three other veterans with SC Serves to provide assistance from other organizations.
- In October we assisted two vets with financial needs for a total of \$450.
- On October 28th we participated in a Veterans' Resource Fair as part of the second annual VFW Change Direction Day. Information was given out on mental wellness, PTSD and resources for veterans who struggle with the invisible wounds of combat.
- Our Post Commander & Adjutant attended a Boy Scout awards ceremony to give certificates to sixteen scouts who helped us with flag placement on Memorial Day.

Building & Grounds Committee

The drainage problem in the parking lot has been resolved!

Membership Committee

Our Post had a booth at this year's Follypalooza Festival. We had a lot of visitors and raised \$92 with Buddy Poppies for our relief fund! Thanks to the members and Auxiliary that helped with this event.

VA needs:

Walmart or grocery gift cards in small denominations (\$10)

Needs for Veterans – Clothing must be new:

Men's sweatpants all sizes (Urgent Need)

Men's Undershirts - L and 2XLG

Men's Sweatshirts - S and XL

Men's Pull-Up Depends (only L and XL needed)

Reading Glasses – all strengths

For Our Homeless Veterans (must be individually wrapped)

Fruit cups **** Applesauce **** Crackers **** Meals ready to eat **** Water

**** Granola bars **** Beef jerky ***** Juice Boxes and Ensure or Boost

Supplies for Newly Housed Veterans (all items must be new)

Dish soap, window & bathroom cleaners, mops, brooms, pails, laundry detergent sponges, scrubbers, and dish towels

Bath Towels - Full and queen-size sheets - Pillows



11/2 – 11/5: SC Dept. Fall Conference

11/4 - Post Clean Up Day

11/10 & 11/11 - Habitat for Humanity - Vet Build – Sign up in the Post to help

11/11 @ 11:00 - Veterans' Day Ceremony

11/7 @ 6:30 - Building & Grounds Committee

11/7 @ 7:00 - House Committee Meeting

11/9 @ 7:00 - Auxiliary Meeting

11/14 @ 7:00 - General Membership Meeting

11/23: Thanksgiving Day - check with the Post for opening or closing.



Oh, by the way.....we also have fun

**** Breakfast every Sunday from 9:00–11:30**

**** Pool Tournament every Monday @ 7:00. \$10 entry fee; Prizes awarded!**

**** Wings & Things every Wednesday from 5:30 – 7:30**

**** Shuffleboard Tournament every Friday @ 7:00. \$5 entry fee; Winner takes all!**

Food glorious food...

November's Friday Night Dinners – 6:30

- 11/10 -** Paige & Kevin cooking awesome food with Marilyn & Company entertaining
- 11/17** Barb's meatloaf and mashed with Green beans (bacon and onions). Music by Jeff and Cliff
- 11/24** Dinner by Montana



November is Military Family Month: A month to honor and celebrate the contributions and sacrifices of the families of the U.S. Armed Forces.

November 10, 2017 - **Marine Corps Birthday**

November 11, 2017 - **Veterans Day**

College of Charleston Veterans Day Event

November 10th - 4-5 pm at the Cistern Yard on campus ([66 George Street](#))

Retired Marine 1st Lt. Clebe McClary is going to be the keynote speaker. The event is **free** and sponsored by Prudential Financial-Office of Veterans Initiatives and TCVSN.



America the Beautiful - National Parks & Federal Recreational Lands Annual Pass

[Click here](#) * for detailed information on passes to our national parks.

Active military - Free admission at sites that charge entrance or standard amenity fees for one full year from the month obtained (through last day of that month).

Veterans - If you are 62 or older you qualify for a [Senior Pass](#).* You can buy a Senior Pass in person from a participating Federal recreation site or office or by mail. If you have a **permanent disability** you may qualify for an [Access Pass](#).* This is a free lifetime pass that you may obtain in person from a participating Federal recreation site or office or by mail.

Join fellow Veterans to Learn about topics related to Your VA & Mental Health

- Every Month on the **4th Monday** 3:00-4:00 PM,
- Ralph H Johnson VA Hospital Mental Health Research Building, Room 113
(Behind the hospital near the West Entrance)

Sponsored by the **Lowcountry Veterans for Better Mental Health**

For more information contact: Lester Pittman (843) 452-1241 - lesterpittman@me.com

Resilient Warrior Book Study

There is a “Resilient Warrior” book study **every Sunday**. It is appropriate for both Veterans and civilians, because everyone goes through some sort of trauma in their life. Please invite anyone that you feel would benefit from this study and be sure and come for breakfast at 9:00. Hope to see you there!

Veterans Fellowship Network

A monthly dinner followed by a guest speaker on a variety of topics that effect Veterans and their families and ways Veterans can access benefits available to them in the Lowcountry. All Veterans are welcome! Contact: Byron Lee (843) 217-9248

SAINT JUDE’S CHURCH 9:00 am 907 WICHMAN ST. WALTERBORO



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 and requirements for submission. The next District meeting will be March 4th at Post 3433. This will be the District Awards banquet and we are expecting a big turnout. All members are invited to attend and are encouraged to do so to support the awardees. Patriots Pen, Voice of Democracy and Teachers awards are due to the Post by October 31st. Good luck to all participants.



Through Veterans Day, November 11, you can “Help A Hero” when you get a haircut at one of the more than 1,700 Sport Clips locations across the U.S. The goal again this year is to raise \$1 million to benefit veterans through the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. (VFW)-administered scholarship program.

The VFW and Sport Clips established the Help A Hero scholarship program in 2013, but have worked together for more than a decade to support America's service members and their families. The “Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship” program provides up to \$5,000 of assistance to qualified individuals who have served in the military, are in need of financial assistance, and are pursuing an education at post-secondary institutions, including trade schools. To date, Sport Clips, clients, team members and product partners have raised more than \$3 million for the program, which resulted in more than 800 scholarships being awarded.



A Musical Event for the Ages

Experience a Veterans Day musical tribute like none other. Join Brad and Jennifer Moranz aboard the USS Yorktown at Patriots Point for a special one-night performance of “BEHIND THE LINES: War Letters by American Heroes.”

“It’s like hearing the Boston Pops Fourth of July concert while watching a show live at the Kennedy Center – and yet it’s all inside an aircraft carrier,” Brad Moranz says. “You will hear America’s most beloved patriotic songs like ‘Over There’ and ‘God Bless the USA.’ Singers will bring to life The Andrews Sisters’ ‘Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy’ and ‘Don’t Sit Under the Apple Tree.’

“There are even some incredible rock turns from the Vietnam era, including ‘Paint it Black’ by The Rolling Stones and ‘We Gotta Get Out of This Place’ by The Animals,” he adds. “It’s a musical event like nothing you’ve ever seen.”

Experience America through the eyes of soldiers in the letters they wrote to their families along with the music of generations - from the American Revolution to Vietnam to present day.

“BEHIND THE LINES: War Letters by American Heroes” is at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 9. Tickets are available for [purchase online](#) or by calling [843-881-5960](tel:843-881-5960). Tickets are \$20 each

and parking is free. The ship is completely accessible with transportation provided from the parking lot to the shop and an elevator is available.

NEWS FROM THE CONFERENCE



Our Department President and C of A member #9 took part in a skit to help us remember what the requirements were to be a good VFW member.



Richard, Millie and Cheryl had a good time at the Auction Fund Raiser



Department President, Theodora with our Auctioneer (he was hilarious).

More than \$2000 was raised for Theodora's fund-raising project.

Not to mention the laughter all evening.

Our Ladson Auxiliary was only too happy to keep track of all the money being raised at the Auction.

P.S. Don't let them fool you with those somber looks – they were having a blast!



Cheryl and I found time to have dinner at a terrific seafood buffet in Myrtle Beach, Calabash Seafood Buffet. Excellent food. They took our picture and then the camera broke.....

THANKSGIVING IS FOR GIVING

You can help make sure a family in need gets to celebrate the holiday with a food drive. This may be a “round about” way to help needy children but when you help the family, you help the children.

Here are some ways you can give thanks on Thanksgiving.

1. Donate to your local food bank
2. Participate in our Thanksgiving Baskets for Families
3. Host a Thanksgiving meal at your Post
4. Adopt a military family for Thanksgiving and treat them to dinner in a restaurant;

And don't forget the VFW National Home for Children.

There are many ways to make a difference in the lives of struggling military and veteran families at the VFW National Home for Children.

Tyson Project A+ Sponsored by Tyson Foods, Inc., Tyson Project A+™ can raise as much as \$12,000 a year!

To participate, clip and save the entire Project A+™ label from participating Tyson products. Get those scissors out and start collecting for our military families.

Help the family, help the child!



THANKSGIVING BASKETS FOR FAMILIES;

Post 445 and Auxiliary are combining to provide Thanksgiving baskets for families. We will have a box at the Post starting Wednesday, November 8th for your convenience in dropping off canned goods and anything else you would like to donate. We will provide the Turkey.

If you know of a family that could use a little cheer at Thanksgiving, please call (847) 890-5767, or email me at judytam18@gmail.com.