

Non-Smoking Facility - Outside Smoking Accommodations Available

# March 2025 - VOLUME 36, NUMBER 9

#### 2024 - 2025 OFFICERS

Post Commander	James W. Wikkerink
Sr. Vice Commander	John W. Flavin
Jr. Vice Commander	Kevin M. Hébert
Quartermaster	John H. Phillips
Chaplain	Donald E. Jackson
House Committee Chairman.	
Service Officer	Troy J. Wagers
Surgeon	
Judge Advocate	Duane E. Gordon
-	

Auxiliary President	
Auxiliary Sr. Vice President.	
Auxiliary Jr. Vice President	
Auxiliary Treasurer	
Auxiliary Chaplain	
Auxiliary Conductress	
Canteen Manager	
M.O.C. Seam Squirrel	
Post Adjutant/Webmaster	Michael T. Marushia

*	COMMANDER'S
	CALL

Greetings and Happy New Year, Comrades!

I hope this month's newsletter finds you all well. We are getting close to the end of the road this year and on track to earn All-American Post Honors again. It is only because of all of the help and support from the membership that we are able to meet our goals. I appreciate everything you have done and hope you will continue to support the Post as strongly as you have in the past. We are having another Prime Rib dinner on March 6th. This event requires pre-payment and registration, so check the bulletin board and save your spot for this great meal deal at only \$23. You aren't going to find that anywhere else in town, so come by the Post and enjoy dinner amongst friends. March is going to be the month where some of our outdoor events start up again, beginning with the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Ocean View on March 15th. If you are interested in participating in the parade, you simply need to meet us at the staging location (Granby and Evans Streets) by 0830 and be ready to walk. Be sure to wear your VFW cap or regalia! We will also have our monthly events which are crowd pleasers as well. If you like to play pool, poker, darts or want to try your skills with Trivia, this is the place to be. Check the website or Facebook for updates or changes to the calendar.

March also is the time we start looking forward to seeing who you want to lead the Post for the next administrative year. We will be opening nominations for all Post Officers at the March Post Business meeting. If you know someone who wants to run for an office, or if you want to run vourself. be there and get nominated. Nominations will remain open until the April business meeting where we will vote on the new slate of officers. Along with elected officers we are

## **ATTENDEES NEEDED**

(see any Post Officer for details)

- <u>Live Entertainment Fridays:</u> See list on Page 5 for information
- Monthly Pool Tourney: Mar 1st / Noon / 5:30 PM
- <u>Cootie Breakfasts</u>: Mar 2nd / 16th 8:30 - 11:00 AM
- <u>Monthly Post/Aux Meetings</u>: Mar 4th / 7:00 PM
- <u>Prime Rib Dinner</u>: Mar 6th / 5:00 PM. Pay in advance by Feb 27th.
- <u>Monthly Bingo /Darts Tourney</u>: Mar 8th / 1:00 PM / 5:30 PM
- <u>MOC Meeting</u>: Mar 11th / 7:00 PM
- <u>Saint Patrick's Day Parade</u>: Mar 15th / 9:00 AM
- Monthly Texas Hold'em: Mar 15th / 6:00 PM
- <u>House Committee Meetings</u>: Mar 26th, 6:30 PM
- <u>Monthly Trivia Night</u>: Mar 31st / 7:00 PM

Post 392 - Needs You!

also going to need an Adjutant. Mike Marushia has done an outstanding job for the last 14 vears, and now it is time for him to take a well deserved break and allow someone else to serve in that position. If you are interested in filling this vital position, please let Mike or myself know so you can get together and get needed training prior to assuming the role. Comrades, I hope you are all staying warm, dry and healthy in the strange weather we are having. Take care and, See you around the Post.

#### Post Commander James Wikkerink <u>commandervfw392@gmail.com</u> <u>757-270-8537</u>



SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Sisters, Brothers and Fellow As we move into a new month, it's time to start considering nominations for new officers for the Post 2025-2026 business year. leadership positions are All available. are currently We seeking individuals to fill the positions of Post elected Commander. Senior Vice Commander. Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster (this is a paid position), 3 Year Trustee, House 5 Year Committee Member, as well as the appointed positions of Adjutant, Chaplain, Advocate, Surgeon, Officer of the Day, and Guard. We encourage everyone to consider possible nominees, as all elected positions open for nomination. are Nominations will be opening soon, and it is essential that we fill these roles promptly. Thank you for your participation in this important process.

I would like to remind you that our Cootie Breakfast takes place on the first and third Sunday of each month. Additionally, we have

variety other events а of scheduled, so please keep an eye on our calendars and Facebook page for updates and information. Join us on Fridays for a delightful evening featuring steamed shrimp and live entertainment. It's a great opportunity to reconnect with friends and welcome new members to our Post. I would also like to encourage those of you with annual memberships to consider upgrading to a lifetime membership.

Lastly, I want to emphasize the pressing issue of veteran suicide, which affects far too many individuals. The statistic of 22 lives lost each day is truly heartbreaking. If you are aware of someone experiencing а significant life change, please take a moment to reach out and check in on them. Let them know you thinking of them and are encourage them to seek support if needed. If they require assistance, please inform someone here at the post so we can extend our help. We must acknowledge that suicide is a tragic end. If you or someone you know is in crisis, please call 988 for immediate support.

#### Sr. Vice Commander John Flavin <u>srvice commandervfw392@gmail.com</u> <u>757-450-0844</u>

#### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

- 3/2 Battle of Bismarck (WW II) started in 1943
- 3/8 US Marines land at Da Nang, Vietnam in 1965
- 3/11 US Army Corps of Engineers established in 1779
- 3/14 US / UN forces recapture Seoul, Korea in 1951
- 3/16 Pres. Reagan orders troops into Honduras in 1988
- 3/17 Civil War's Battle of Kelly's Ford in 1863
- 3/19 US and coalition forces initiate Iraq War in 2003

3/29 Last of US troops withdraw from Vietnam in 1973

## JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Greetings Brothers and Sisters, It is hard to believe that we are already in the month of March! I hope that February was good for all of you this year, in that you shared a little bit of love during this Valentine's month, and that you stayed warm during one of the coldest and most historic snowfalls we have ever had on record. Perhaps February brought you celebrations of our Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen winners at our VFW VA District 2 meeting, an amazing Thursday enjoyment night dinner. of wonderful live music on Friday nights, great fellowship during the Annual NFL Championship Game Pot Luck Dinner, a place to root for your driver during the Daytona 500, or maybe you tested your pigskin knowledge during our nearly world-famous Trivia Night hosted by the coach with the most himself. Steve "Good Steve" Wilkins! Whatever you did this February, I hope you had a chance to visit your comrades at the Post and enjoy the festivities and events going on. If you didn't, I hope you will join us for events in the month of March.

Recently, the VFW National Home celebrated it's 100-year anniversary. This home was founded when a veteran, who on his way to pick up his retirement pay, was struck and killed by an automobile in Detroit, in January 1925. When his wife and six children were left penniless, the VFW Department of Michigan stepped in and came to the family's aide. Today, the VFW National Home in Eaton Rapids, Michigan sits on 629 acres and houses 42 single family homes. It is an organization whose mission has evolved over the years to meet

challenges that military and veteran families face, including post-traumatic reintegration. stress, high unemployment and rehabilitation from battlefield injuries. The VFW National Home is just one of the many causes that the VFW funds to support our veterans. It is vital that we do what we can to continue to meet the our military challenges that families face these days, even in our own community, just as the VFW National Home does. The work is not hard, if we are all doing a little of what we can to support the causes we feel so strongly about. The VFW Motto is "No one does more for Vets", and that is a strong reminder to the pledge of comradeship that we made to one another.

Remember your pledge, and help out around the Post if you can, and always remember that Many Hands Make Light Work!

Jr. Vice Commander Kevin Hébert <u>jrvice commandervfw392@gmail.com</u> 757-412-9191



## QUARTER-MASTER

**<u>I</u> DO NOT** intend to run for Quartermaster next year. The Post needs someone to fill this position. Nominations become open in March and elections are in April. The Quartermaster position requires a lot of training. If interested contact me at the Post.

## Continuous Membership <u>Awards</u>

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.

## March 2025

**45 Years Continuous Service:** Parran M. Hollis Jr

**40 Years Continuous Service:** John B. Edwards II

**35 Years Continuous Service:** Paul T. Kirk, Joffray J. Marcantel Jr.

**30 Years Continuous Service:** Francis X. Janes, Richard E. Snook

**25 Years Continuous Service:** Harold F. Wickizer

**20 Years Continuous Service:** John C. DeMille, Thomas J. Powner, John D. Wood

**15 Years Continuous Service:** Barton D. Consford Sr., Raymond D. Damico, Jack C. Devenney, Clifford J. Dietz, Robert F. Jones, Mark S. Kinnane, Alan J. Quartararo, Alex C. Wibe

**10 Years Continuous Service:** Howard D. Belote, William J. Bennett, Hipolito L. Camacho, William I. Leidigh Jr., Ravi Sookram, Priestly A. Williams III

In order to maintain continuous membership eligibility in the VFW, you must pay your dues prior to the expiration date on your card. *Thank you for your service, and congratulations!*.

#### Membership Dues

Annual dues are \$40.00. Annual Members can pay their dues at Post 392, online at <u>vfw.org</u>, 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.

#### VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.VFW392.ORG

#### E-Newsletter

The VFW Post 392 Newsletter and Calendar are available online for free! If you are currently receiving a hard copy of the Newsletter via the USPS, we ask that you subscribe to our e-mailing list so we can reduce printing and mailing costs to our members. To view these documents online, go to vfw392.org and click on the links along the left side of the page to view each 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 "<u>Subscribe to the</u> <u>VFW Post 392 Mailing List</u>" link. Ensure that you add the domain "vfw392.org" to your address book. This will prevent the Post emails from going to your SPAM folder!

#### Updating Your Name, Address and Contact Information

VFW Post 392 maintains the name, address, phone number and email address for all our Post and Auxiliary members. If any of this information has changed for you since you joined the Post, please notify the Quartermaster by phone or email so he can update our databases. If you are planning on moving anytime in the upcoming future (often the case with our active duty military members) please contact us as soon as you have your new contact information so we can stay in touch with you and ensure you get Post information. When your mailing address changes, be sure to fill out a USPS address change form, mail it in, or drop it off at the Post.

#### **DECEASED MEMBERS:**

Please contact the Post when a member passes. If members are only reported as deceased to VFW

National, we find this out only by checking the National Deceased list, which does not provide the deceased's date of death. Also, VFW National Headquarters often lists members from our Post as deceased without us knowing. Sometimes these members have been deceased for many years. Last year, VFW National reported 31 of our members deceased. When we find out that a member is deceased, often the members contact information is not up-todate, so we are unable do a followup with the family.

We maintain a permanent wall plaque for the names and dates of our deceased members. Please help us honor them!!

> Quartermaster John Phillips 757-486-5875 vfwpost392@gmail.com



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Comrades, Auxiliary & friends, I greet you in the Blessed name of Jesus Christ our Lord & Savior.

Welcome to March! March historically is a time of transition. Thus, we get the saying "In like a lion, out like a lamb". Although in recent times, it seems as though the lions & lambs have forgotten their place. When I was young, a few years ago, March was the month to fly kites. Now it seems as if the wind blows much of the year, so kite flying can be a yearround sport.

Beware the Ides of March refers to March 15<sup>th</sup>. This saying became popular because of William (his friends called him Billy) Shakespear's famous play "Julius Caesar" (since Caesar was considered a deity with power of life & death, there is no record of his friends calling him Julie). Caesar had been warned by a seer about his demise on the Ides of March but chose to ignore the warning. In fact, on the way to the Senate, he joked to the seer, "well, the Ides of March are come & I'm still alive". To which the seer replied, "Aye, they are come, but they are not gone". So, on March 15<sup>th</sup>, 44BC, a triumphant Caesar entered the Senate, where he was stabbed to death by over 60 of his closest friends. Now folks, that's a divided Senate!

On the ancient Roman calendar, March was the first month of the year. Rome's New Years celebration was a bit different than ours today. Although today, on New Year's Day, some of us may feel as if we have been beaten, in Rome they would dress an "old man" in an animal skin and beat him until they ran him out of town. "Out with the old." Holy smokes now that's a hangover!

The Romans had to keep up with many gods & deities. Gods of sun, moon, war, love, etc. That seems so confusing. How easy would it be to unknowingly offend a god? I'm glad that I have but one God, morning, noon & night. If I offend, He forgives. If I stumble, He rights my path.

Dear God, thank You that we no longer practice the Roman New Year, I fear I may be allergic to animal skin! AMEN

Please continue to be kind to one another. Support & pray for one another.

This month I want to leave you with words from a future meteorologist 5-year-old Mark:

"Dear God, I keep waiting for spring, but it never come yet. Don't forget."

I can be contacted at the Gmail address below

In His Name,

Post Chaplain Don Jackson <u>chaplainvfw392@gmail.com</u> <u>757-469-0789</u>

HELP US TAKE CARE OF EACH <u>OTHER</u> 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 any way possible to aid and comfort our fellow Comrades and family in their time of need. Please call Post Chaplain Don Jackson or our Auxiliary Chaplain Gloria Jackson, as appropriate, at your opportunity, first as timelv notification is very important to their mission!

#### **Illness / Injuries**

Please read the Post's Bulletin Board for updates of Members on the Illness / Injury List.

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

#### **Temporary Illness or Injury**

Grant Pollock - Jones & Cabacoy VA Care Center James Maloney -Lake Taylor Michael Dineen—Coliseum Care Hampton (PPC) Bill Sowers—Home

#### **TAPS**

#### ARTHUR EHLERS JR JAN 25, 2025 LEON A. MACKEY 2/13/2025

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.



"Beware of the Ides of March!" Hopefully that means Spring and warmer weather are on the way!

Thank you to all of those who helped with the trash pick in February. Please keep watch for our next cleanup date.

Thank you to everyone that attended the District Meeting at Post 2894. The next District Meeting will be at Post 3160 on Saturday May 10<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 AM. This will be the Convention and where we will elect officers to serve the District for the upcoming year. If you would like to get into the District Chairs, please attend this meeting and let your intentions be known.

At our February meeting, we elected a new  $3^{rd}$  year trustee. A big thank you to Terri Parks for stepping up and accepting this position.

We will be holding our annual Children's Easter party on  $12^{\text{th}}$ . Saturday, April More information will be available after our March business meeting. Our Chaplain, Gloria Jackson, stands by for any member who may need our assistance. Thanks for everything that you do for our Veterans and our Post!!! I can be reached at 757- 477-5086 or at fredlyj@verizon.net or you can reach our Secretary Judy at 757-581-2702 by email or at luvedale88@verizon.net. She will make sure I get the message. Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday Mar 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 7:00 pm.

Auxiliary President Fred Jennings fredlyj@verizon.net 757-477-5089



## AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP

#### Auxiliary Members In Good Standing 581/445 Life Members Continuous Auxiliary Membership Awards

All who have not received their longevity awards are requested to attend the next regularly scheduled meeting of our VFW 392 Auxiliary. Our Auxiliary President stands ready to decorate you with the awards indicated:

<u>February 2025</u> 25 Years Continuous Service: Jennifer A. Winn Thank you for your service and congratulations!

VFW Auxiliary Secretary Judy Lupole <u>luvedale88@verizon.net</u> (757) 581-2702



CANTEEN HOURS

**Sunday-Thursday....** 1100-2200 **Friday – Saturday.....** 1100-2300

## KITCHEN HOURS

<u>Monday- Kitchen closed</u>\* Tuesday-Thursday: 1100-1400, Tuesday-Thursday: 1700-1900 Friday: 1100-1400, 1730-2030 Saturday/Sunday: 1300-1700\* \* Hot Dogs, Chili, and Pizza may be obtainable on Mondays, Saturdays, and Sundays. These air fryer menu items are available when the kitchen is closed: Chicken Wings, Curly Fries, French Fries, Jalapeno Poppers, Mozzarella Sticks, and Popcorn Chicken

## SOCIAL HOURS

**Mon - Fri 3-6pm / Thurs 3-7pm** Come in and enjoy our low Social Hour Prices to start your evening!

## **MEMBERS BOTTLES**

Bottle storage behind the bar is for short term storage ONLY. Bottles are tracked and will be removed after 90 days if not utilized.

## WEEKENDS AT THE VFW

Start the weekend with Friday's Social Hour Prices from 3-7 PM! The kitchen is open Friday, 5:30 to 8:30 PM, with all of our menu items, including our weekly Shrimp Special!

The Canteen opens at 11:00 on weekends. When the kitchen is closed, the \*menu items above are available. <u>We show all NASCAR</u> <u>CUP Races on our big screen</u> <u>TV's!</u> The Kitchen is open for menu service on Saturdays and Sundays from Noon to 5:00 pm during the NASCAR Season.

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

THURSDAY NIGHT DINNERS 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

#### March 6th, 2025 PRIME RIB DINNER \$23.00

#### Registration and pre-payment are required—see the Bartender to register and pre-pay!

**Note: IF A REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR A DINNER. PRE-PAYMENT** IS **ALSO REOUIRED.** This ensures we don't over-prepare and lose money on these fundraising events!! You will be able to pay the bartender and receive a receipt valid for your meal(s). If you have questions, please contact our Canteen Manager Shelly Hughes or Assistant Canteen Manager Teresa McMillion at (757) 486-5875, or via email at: canteenmanager392@gmail.com.

Our Friday Evening Dinners, which include our weekly Shrimp Special, are held from 5:30 - 8:30 PM.

Fridays: Steamed Shrimp

EZ Peel Shrimp are back & larger! 1/2 lb. for \$9.00 / 1 lb. for \$16.00. Fried Shrimp Dinner: \$11.50 (Prices as of Sep 15th, 2023)

#### FRIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

Below is the live entertainment scheduled for March. Please come enjoy the music with us!

March 7th	March 21st
BRUCE TODD	DJ SHANNON
6:30-9:30PM	6-10PM
March 14th	March 28th
MARTY	NOAH
MOORE	REINHART
6:30-9:30PM	6:30-9:30PM

If you have comments or for our suggestions Canteen. please let us know. All written comments or suggestions must be signed for consideration! Thank you for your service and support! Shelly Hughes

Post 392 Canteen Manager 757-486-5875 canteenmanager392@gmail.com



Fellow Coots of Pup Tent #9, Life Membership Dues will increase about 15%, effective 1 June 2025. Please get with CCDB Dave Goldstein to upgrade to a Life Membership and forgo any future dues increases.

Nominations were opened for all elected positions in the Pup Tent. If you are a Cootie, please attend our next meeting so we can close nominations and elect the 2025-2026 slate of officers. Every member of Pup Tent #9 is strongly urged to attend, as conducting this election is integral to keeping the Pup Tent and Cootie events active. We will have our next monthly meeting on March 11th at 7:00

PM. All Cooties should attend. **MOC Seam Squirrel Ronnie Steele** ADJDIST2@VFWVA.ORG



## **SCHOLARSHIP** UPDATES

Our Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy winners that won at District level the 2 were recognized at the February VFW VA District 2 Meeting in Chesapeake. Congratulations to all the winners!

> Sue C. Sowers **Scholarship Chairperson** Suesowers46@gmail.com Phone: 757-641-0624



## **Newsletter Advertising** All ads are paid advertisements,

and are not endorsed by the **Veterans of Foreign Wars** 

VFW Post 392 offers advertising space in our newsletter. Our monthly circulation is over 2000. All ads must be submitted and approved by the Post prior to the 15th of each month. If you are interested in advertising, please contact the Ouartermaster.

STATE OF VIRGINIA **VETERANS AFFAIRS IS NOW** LOCATED AT: Pembroke Office Park 293 Independence Blvd. Pembroke Five, Suite 109 Virginia Beach, VA 23462 Office: (757) 552-1884

## **LEGAL AID OFFICE**

**Veterans Free Legal Services** Estate Planning. Consumer matters, public benefits, and family law.

> Legal Aid Society of Eastern Virginia 30 West Oueen's Way Hampton, Virginia 23669 (757) 275-0080 deannas@laseva.org

## **NOTARY PUBLIC**

The following Post members are commissioned as Notary Publics in the Commonwealth of Virginia:

> • Robert DeChamplain David Sage



National Home for Children began as a place where families left behind by war could remain together. Today, the National Home has evolved to meet the changing needs of America's military and veterans' families. Learn more about the National Home and help us support its important mission by visiting https://vfwnationalhome.org/about -us/history/ .

## **CORRECTIONS**

Send comments, corrections, or complaints about our content to webmaster@vfw392.org. Thanks!

Webmaster/Newsletter Editor: We are looking for a Post 392 member to assume the duties of Webmaster and Newsletter Editor. Must have experience in editing web pages and publications. Please contact Post Adjutant Michael Marushia for further information on this position.

## **MEMBER LOCKERS**

If you haven't paid your locker dues, you no longer have a locker. All contents in your locker has been removed and stored in a secure area. See the Ouartermaster or Bartender to obtain your items.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is now: 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline







# NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS

The below are paid advertisements. No endorsement or sponsorship of these advertisers by VFW Post 392 is expressed or implied.





Click on the image above for more info!



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