



The Swamp Fox

VFW Post 4667 Newsletter

December 2003

Commander	William M. Sword
Sr. Vice Commander	James Haulsee
Jr. Vice Commander	William Falke
Quartermaster	John Null
Adjutant	Cecil Carter
Chaplain	E. Haskin Kinser
Judge Advocate	John Thompson
Surgeon	Edward Kuhn
Trustees	Cecil Carter
	Roger Haulsee
	Roy R. McNeil



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Lifetime Membership Fees

<u>Attained Age</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Through 30	\$245.00
31-40	\$235.00
41-50	\$215.00
51-60	\$195.00
61-70	\$165.00
71-80	\$125.00
81 and over	\$85.00

See John Null for details

COMMANDERS CORNER

As we approach the seasons of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and the New Year we all need to take a few minutes to reflect on the traditions of these holidays and the difference these holidays have upon our lives. Take a few moments to reflect upon the first thanksgiving of the pilgrims, the hardships encountered in a foreign and hostile environment. As they prepared for the winter not knowing if they would survive. How fortunate we are that they did survive. As a nation that with all our problems, we like the pilgrims of long ago will survive. To survive is not an option but a necessity in order for freedom to flourish.

During the Christmas season may you find the Peace and Joy that the shepherds and the wise men discovered so long ago. May it make your days brighter that you know someone who cares. May the New Year bring Peace, Prosperity, and Joy is my prayer for each of you. May God continue to bless each of you and our great nation, the United States of America.

VFW COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF VISITS POST 4667

On November 13th the Post was honored by a visit by Ed Banas, Commander in Chief of the VFW. Staff members from national and the Department of Virginia accompanied Commander Banas. Commander Banas spoke on membership and payed honor to all veterans and the Ladies Auxiliary. Guests from VFW Posts in Saltville, Bluefield and Wytheville attended. A very nice lunch was prepared by the Post Ladies Auxiliary.

A WORD FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Meditation – Asaph, faced with trouble turned to God for help. His soul found no comfort and his spirit was overwhelmed. He was so troubled he could not speak. He felt abandoned by God. But then he began to reflect as God’s blessings in the past. When you are troubled, remember and take comfort in the many ways God has already blessed you. – Haskin Kinser, Chaplain

TAPS

It is sad to report that the below comrades have departed our ranks and gone before us to join that last great encampment of our Supreme Commander. We extend our heartfelt condolences to their loved ones.

07-11-03 L	Cress, Glen S.	622 Berry Place	Marion	24354
08-04-03	Brickey, James C.	543 Old Prater Rd.	Marion	24354
08-12-03 L	Lowe, Garland G.	2369 Riverside Rd.	Marion	24354
09-02-03	Cahill, Ronnie E.	195 Alston Dr.	Saltville	24370
09-06-03 L	Cook, Charles W.	1025 Middle Ave.	Marion	24354
09-05-03	Sturgill, C.R. Jr.	614 Lincoln Ave.	Marion	24354
09-06-03	Keesee, Wayne W.	2601 Valley Rd.	Saltville	24370
10-10-03 L	Porterfiled, Roscoe	329 Myers St.	Marion	24354
10-22-03	Ashlin, Charles R.	451 Lovelace Dr.	Marion	24354
10-29-03	Pugh, Ralph W.	PO Box 633	Marion	24354

NEWS FROM THE AUXILIARY

The VFW Ladies Auxiliary 4667 meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 2:00 PM. Come on out and be with us.

We are now collecting dues. The dues are \$18.00.

To you that are Life Members, please pay \$4.95 cancer insurance.

Come on out at the VFW building at 2:00 the 4th Tuesday of the month. We would be glad to have you. – Della Kinser, President

DONATIONS

Since July 1st the following donations have been made to our communities:

07/31	Disabled Veterans	\$200.00
09/11	Marion Lions Club	\$200.00
09/12	Hospice of Southwest Virginia	\$ 30.00
09/12	George F James Memorial Scholarship	\$300.00
09/18	T Burkett Wytheville Community College	\$500.00
09/18	Virginia Highland Community College	\$1,500.00
09/19	Virginia Tech	\$2,000.00

TOTAL: \$4,730.00

Post 4667 Veterans Memorial

The Veterans Memorial to be constructed at the Post home will become a reality. In a near unanimous vote at the November 6th membership meeting funding was approved for the construction of the memorial. The project was awarded to Mr. William (Bill) R.White, AIA, who submitted a bid of \$148,000.00. A groundbreaking ceremony for the memorial was held November 11th, Veterans Day. Construction is scheduled to start in December. The memorial has a projected completion date of May 1st, 2004. A dedication ceremony for the memorial is scheduled to coincide with Memorial Day.

The memorial will be constructed at the corner of VFW Post property near the Goolsby Street parking lot entrance. As pictured below the memorial will be a total of 58 feet long. There will be a center building, 10 feet wide, with two equal walls of 24 feet in length extending from each side of the center building. Each side wall will be 9 feet at the highest point and extend downward to a height of 5 feet. The entire front wall of the memorial will be covered in Black Wave granite, which is quarried in Virginia. The center building has four columns constructed of Rockville Beige granite.

Carved in the wall behind the center building will be:

“This monument is dedicated to
all those who served with honor
in the United States Armed
Services by VFW Post 4667. You
will not be forgotten”

“All gave some”



“Some gave all”

The names of veterans who honorably served in the U.S. Armed Forces are to be placed on the front of each of the side walls. Anyone wishing to have a veterans name placed on the memorial should complete and return the VFW Post 4667 Memorial Name Application. **Any** U.S. Armed Forces veteran, regardless of where they live, are eligible to have their name placed on the memorial. For a veteran to be eligible for their name to be placed on the memorial, the veteran must have honorably served in the U.S. Armed Forces. The memorial is to honor all veterans. There is a fee of \$50.00 for each name to be placed on the memorial. When completing the application please be accurate in the spelling of the veteran’s name.

Anyone desiring to make a tax deductible donation toward the memorial can mail their donation to: VFW Post 4667, Attn: VFW Memorial, PO Box 767, Marion, VA 24354. Please indicate “VFW Memorial” on the memo line of any checks.



VFW Post 4667 Memorial Name Application

To be eligible for a name to be placed on the memorial, the service member must be currently in or have honorably served in the U.S. military.

Print in capital letters (blue or black ink only) the name of the service member *exactly as it is to appear on the memorial*. Nicknames may be used.

First Name or Nickname

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Middle Name, Initial or Nickname

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Last Name

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Branch of Service: _____ Dates of Service: _____

Conflicts Served In (i.e. WWII, Korean War, Vietnam, etc): _____

Countries Assigned: _____

If Still Living, Place of Residence: _____

Name of Person Submitting Application

Name: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone Number: _____

I acknowledge that the above named person is now in or has honorably served in the U.S. military. I authorize VFW Post 4667 to place the above indicated name on the Post memorial. *I understand that I bear responsibility for the correct spelling of the name. Once the name is placed on the memorial no changes will be made.*

Signature of person applying: _____ Date: _____

-----VFW USE ONLY BELOW THIS LINE-----

Verified by/date: _____

Fee Paid (\$50.00) Cash _____ Check #/amount _____

Donation: Cash _____ Check #/amount _____

(Please Turn Application Over)

(Application Continued)

In order to ensure that only the names of U.S. military veterans are placed on the memorial, we are requiring verification that the person whose name is placed on the memorial is currently in or has *served honorably* in the U.S. military. ***It is the responsibility of the person applying to provide an adequate form of verification so that eligibility can be determined.*** Some examples of acceptable forms of verification are: DD-214 (Discharge papers), veteran's organization membership card (i.e. VFW, American Legion, etc.), photograph of service member in uniform with other service members, photo of service members name on a monument or memorial.

You must attach a form of eligibility to this application. Applications without a form of verification will not be processed.

All payments by check should be made out to "VFW Post 4667" and on the memo line please indicate "VFW Memorial".

Donations to help with the construction and maintenance of the memorial are welcomed. All donations to the project are tax deductible. You can indicate the amount of donation on the front of this form or mail your donation to the VFW. Please indicate on the check memo line "VFW Memorial Donation".

Please mail completed applications or donations to:

VFW Post 4667
Attn: VFW Memorial
PO Box 767
Marion, VA 24354

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY

The Post and District judging will take place at radio station WMEV on Thursday, November 20th at 9:00 AM. Winners will be listed in the next issue of the Swamp Fox.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Coletti, Benny S.	Counts, Adron	Cox, Kenneth M
Jones, Ricky V	Long, John E.	Russell, Matthew B.
Stacey, David W	Lamie, David W.	
McDowell, Billy D (Transfer from California)		

The American's Creed - William Tyler Page

“I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic; a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes. “I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it, to support its Constitution, to obey its laws, to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies.”

William Tyler Page, Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives, wrote “The American's Creed” in 1917. It was accepted by the House on behalf of the American people on April 3, 1918.

DISABLED VETERANS OFFICES

Disabled veterans offices located in southwestern Virginia

Big Stone Gap	Bristol
Clover Leaf Square	111 Commonwealth Ave.
Bldg. D, Suite 1	Suite 240
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219	Bristol, VA 24201
276-523-1411	276-466-2212
9:00 - 3:00 Mon. - Thur.	8:00 - 4:30 Mon. - Fri.
Cedar Bluff	Wytheville
SW Virginia Medical Center	180 South 4 th St.
Cedar Bluff Drive	Suite 201
PO Box 1700	Wytheville, VA 24382
Cedar Bluff, VA 24609	276-228-5211
276-963-5054	9:30 - 3:00 Tues. only
8:00 - 4:30 Mon. - Fri.	

Because of limited staffing these offices may be closed during periods of employee leave. Therefore it is suggested clients call before going to the office.

SALVATION ARMY RED KETTLES

The Red Kettles will be starting up on November 18th and ending December 24th. As you all know this is the main fund raising event for the Salvation Army in Smyth County. If you would like to volunteer, please contact one of the following Captain's:

Bank of Marion Polly Carlton 783-7836 or Bill Pugh 783-2056

Food Lion John Taminger 783-2905

Wal-Mart B J Atwood 782-1931

Ingles Tom Ewald or Bill Smith 783-7703

Food City Ed Pennington 783-344

ABC Stores Ken Osborne 783-9717

Chilhowie Food City: A L Dungan 646-3515

The Saltville area will be covered by VFW Post 7328 Barry Green 496-3236 or Hugh Helton 496-3306.

There will also be some unmanned Kettles located at various locations.

We appreciate all the time that the volunteers have donated during past events. With the economic situation in Smyth County an increasing amount of donations are required to help those in need. With you help we can make a difference.

Donations by mail can be sent to: Salvation Army, PO Box 133, Marion, VA 24354. If you mail a donation in please designate it as "Red Kettle" on the "memo" line.

For further information please call Sue Thompson at 783-8785.

13TH ANNUAL VFW POST4667 ROY ERNEST MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT WINNERS

The tournament was held at Holston Hill's Country Club on September 11th. A great lunch was provided on the patio with all enjoying. Chaplin Haskin Kincer delivered the prayer. Before the start of play, VFW members held a memorial, presented by Post Commander Bill Sword, for all those that lost their lives on September 11th 2001 due to the terrorist attacks.

1st Place Team Steve Mc Grady, Major Bowen, Lloyd Davis, Ted Russell

2nd Place Team Ralph Hayton, Clarence Slagle, Bill Tilson, James Gardner

3rd Place Team Allen Jones, French Sturgill, John Copenhaver, Robert Lincoln Jr.

Longest Drive: Paul Sauls

Closest to pin on par 3 holes: Bill Tilson, JW Combow, and Dallas Brown

POST CHRISTMAS PARTY

The annual Christmas party will be held on Sunday, December 7th at 2:00 PM. All community members are welcome to attend. Come on out and join in - bring the children and grandchildren for a fun afternoon. Each child attending will receive a present.

VA TO FILL PRESCRIPTION BY NON-VA PHYSICIANS

WASHINGTON, July 24, 2003– Some veterans waiting to see Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) physicians for the first time may be eligible to receive medications from VA mail-out pharmacies that were prescribed by private doctors, under a new policy announced today.

"This policy should ease the minds of veterans with pharmaceutical needs who have been waiting too long for their first appointment," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi. "This decision will help these veterans while preserving our ability to serve others."

To be eligible for the new benefit, veterans must meet all of the following conditions: Have enrolled in VA health care before July 25, 2003, and Requested their first primary care appointment with VA before July 25, 2003, and Must be waiting more than 30 days for their first appointment with a primary care physician on Sept. 22, 2003.

The first prescriptions will be filled under the new program on September 22. Eligible veterans will be unable to get prescriptions filled before that date. The period between announcement of the program (July 25) and filling the first prescriptions (Sept. 22) is necessary to allow VA to identify and contact eligible veterans and to put new systems and procedures in place to deliver this benefit.

Principi stressed the policy is a short-term measure to assist veterans who were enrolled and waiting for the appointment before July 25, when details about the new benefit were published in the *Federal Register*. It will not apply to veterans who are put on the waiting list after July 24. VA estimates that 200,000 veterans will be eligible for the benefit.

"Traditionally, an examination and a prescription – both by a VA physician -- have been required before VA would provide pharmacy benefits to veterans," Principi said. "By improving the process of giving veterans the medication they're seeking, we can enhance their health care treatment and reduce the waiting lists for everyone."

Veterans covered by the new rule will receive information by mail from their nearest VA medical facility about filling prescriptions by mail from non-VA doctors, including information for the doctors themselves.

Principi credited Reps. John Mica (R-Fla.) and Rob Simmons (R-Conn.) with "playing an important role in launching this new benefit due to their keen interest in improving prescription coverage for veterans."

Online Registry for World War II Veterans Available

Registry Honors the Generation that Defended the Nation's Founding Principles in History's Largest War

Washington D.C., August 6, 2003--At a time when fewer than one in ten adults recognize that 16 million Americans served in uniform during the Second World War, the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC) has introduced a World War II Registry online to document the names of those who participated in history's largest and most devastating war.

The Registry is accessible on the National World War II Memorial website (<http://www.wwiimemorial.com/default.asp?page=registry.asp&subpage=intro>).

Any American that served in the armed forces or contributed to the war effort on the home front, whether in factories and shipyards or farms and neighborhoods, is eligible.

There is no charge to place a name in the Registry. Individuals can be enrolled through the web site or by calling the memorial's toll free number at 1-800-639-4WW2.

The Registry contains more than one million records, most submitted by the public. The database also includes National Archives and Records Administration lists of those killed in service during the war and names of those buried in ABMC overseas cemeteries or listed on its Tablets of the Missing.

There is no charge to enroll a member of the WWII generation in the Registry, although there is a \$5 processing fee for a certificate of the enrollment and a \$10 fee to add a photograph of the individual to the record.

The memorial is under construction and on schedule for the official dedication ceremony set for Saturday, May 29, 2004. The Registry will be accessible at the memorial site on the National Mall when the memorial is opened to the public.

Of 1,002 U.S. adults responding to a phone survey in May: 22 percent believed that only 100,000 served in uniform during the war, 34 percent thought one million served, 14 percent thought 8 million served, just 8 percent correctly stated 16 million, and 22 percent didn't know.

WORLD PEACE PLAN – ACCORDING TO ROBIN WILLIAMS

I see a lot of people yelling for peace but I have not heard of a plan for peace. So, here's one plan:

- 1) The US will apologize to the world for our "interference" in their affairs, past & present. We will promise never to "interfere" again.
- 2) We will withdraw our troops from all over the world, starting with Germany, South Korea and the Philippines. They don't want us there. We would station troops at our borders. No more sneaking through holes in the fence.
- 3) All illegal aliens have 90 days to get their affairs together and leave. We'll give them a free trip home. After 90 days the remainder will be gathered up and deported immediately, regardless of who or where they are. France would welcome them.
- 4) All future visitors will be thoroughly checked and limited to 90-day visits unless given a special permit. No one from a terrorist nation would be allowed in. If you don't like it there, change it yourself, don't hide here. Asylum would not ever be available to anyone. We don't need any more cab drivers.
- 5) No "students" over age 21. The older ones are the bombers. If they don't attend classes, they get a "D" and it's back home, baby.

6) The US will make a strong effort to become self-sufficient energy wise. This will include developing non-polluting sources of energy but will require a temporary drilling of oil in the Alaskan wilderness. The caribou will have to cope for a while.

7) Offer Saudi Arabia and other oil producing countries \$10 a barrel for their oil. If they don't like it, we go someplace else.

8) If there is a famine or other natural catastrophe in the world, we will not "interfere". They can pray to Allah or whomever, for seeds, rain, cement, or whatever they need. Besides, most of what we give them gets "lost" or is taken by their army. The people who need it most get very little, anyway.

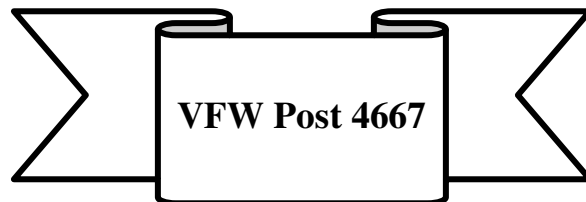
9a) Ship the UN Headquarters to an island some place. We don't need the spies and fair weather friends here. Besides, it would make a good homeless shelter or lockup for illegal aliens.

9b) Use the buildings as replacement for the twin towers.

10) All Americans must go to charm and beauty school. That way, no one can call us "Ugly Americans" any longer.

Now, ain't that a winner of a plan.

"The Statue of Liberty is no longer saying 'Give me your poor, your tired, your huddled masses.' She's got a baseball bat and she's yelling, 'You want a piece of me?'" - Robin Williams



VFW Post 4667 meets the first Thursday of each month at our Post Home on Goolsby Street. Our fellowship and meal begins at 6:15 PM with the business meeting starting at 7:00 PM. All members are encouraged to attend meetings to learn about the VFW, keep informed on local veteran's affairs, learn how we can help our community, and enjoy fellowship.

The Swamp Fox is published in March, July, and December. We welcome letters or recommended articles to be included. Letters and/or articles must be signed and include the writer's address and telephone number for verification purposes. Due to space limitations, letters should be brief and pertain to VFW activities, military news, or items of interest to veterans. Address letters to: FRANCIS MARION POST 4667, Attn: Swamp Fox Editor, P.O. Box 767, Marion, VA 24354.

The Swamp Fox is available at www.vfw4667.org. Comrade John Harmon voluntarily maintains the Post web site. All comments or recommendation pertaining to the site should be addressed to john.harmon@jharmon.com

***For an organization to be a
success, it takes a team effort***

***Be part of the team and
participate...***

FRANCIS MARION POST 4667

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276-783-7971

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