



The Swamp Fox



VFW Francis Marion Post 4667 Newsletter December 2008

Post Officers

Commander	Turk Johnson
Sr. Vice Commander	David Brooks
Jr. Vice Commander	James Brown
Quartermaster	William Sword
Adjutant	Cecil Carter
Chaplain	Joe Ellis
Judge Advocate	J D Baldwin
Surgeon	John Long
Trustees	Cecil Carter
	Claude Heath
	Bill Falke



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COMMANDER'S CORNER

Greetings, Fellow Comrades:

This has been a very busy and exciting quarter for our Post.

First, I would like to say that we attended the National VFW Convention in Orlando, FL, where the Post was a recipient of the National Community Service Award. This was achieved because of your help in our Post and community.

We are striving to collect all dues so we can again have 100% membership before December 31, 2008. If you have not sent in your dues you can come by the Post and we will mail them for you. We need your support to preserve veterans and active military rights.

We visited the VFW State Headquarters in Staunton during the month of October and presented Kim DeShano with over 300 telephone calling cards at a value of over \$1,700.00. These cards will be distributed to Walter Reed Hospital and also the VA Hospital in Richmond.

The Veterans Day Programs at the schools throughout the county makes us very proud that we are not forgotten by the youth of this country.

During our meeting in November we remembered all our deceased VFW members for the past year with a candlelight service.

A Comrade of the Year plaque was presented to John Arthur, who not only is the editor of our Swamp Fox, but you will see him at Bingo, helping with computer programs, as well as many maintenance jobs. He always assists with a smile.

Briefly, we had several activities at the Post, which includes our Appreciation Dinner, Roy Earnest Golf Tournament, and Halloween treats. Again, Eileen Robinson did a great job being our pumpkin and giving treats and hugs to the children.

We wish you and your family a wonderful Holiday Season and may God bless.

Respectfully Your Commander, Turk Johnson

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Antonio Delarosa
Eddie Ratcliffe

Allen Elliott
Patrick Thomas

William Houston
Samuel Widener

Aaron Parlier
Daniel Saul

TAPS

It is with sincere sadness and regret that we report that the below comrades who 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.

06-04-08	Wyatt, John A	1415 Ripshin Rd.	Troutdale	24378
06-05-08 (L)	Haulsee, David M	PO Box 615	Rural Retreat	24368
06-30-08 (L)	Brooks, James H	406 Staley St.	Marion	24354
07-18-08 (L)	Hunt, William H	PO Box 725	Chilhowie	24319
07-23-08	Rich, Roy R	268 Spring Hollow Rd.	Marion	24354
07-23-08 (L)	Perkins, Carl E	115 Hemlock St.	Marion	24354
07-24-08 (L)	Lyons, James F Jr.	98 Timber Ln.	Troutdale	24378
07-31-08 (L)	Sage, Ford	305 Hockett St.	Marion	24354
08-19-08	Campbell, Harold W	2202 Old Lake Rd.	Marion	24354
08-26-08 (L)	Farrington, William H	618 Peavler St.	Marion	24354
09-02-08 (L)	Ford, William H	1249 Culbert Dr.	Marion	24354
09-08-08 (L)	Wolfe, Curtis J	218 Race Blvd.	Marion	24354
09-16-08	Edmiston, Joseph D	847 Chatham Hill Rd.	Marion	24354
09-20-08	Linkous, Gordon W	123 Eagle View Dr.	Blountville	37617
10-12-08	Jackson, William P	122 Ridgewood Pl.	Marion	24354
11-12-08 (L)	Winesett, J C	824 Middle Ave.	Marion	24354

DONATIONS

Boy Scout Troop 832	Donation	400.00
Marion Lions Club	Donation	300.00
Boy Scout Troop 646	Fall Camp	250.00
Chilhowie High School	Team Meals	325.00
Kiwanis Club Marion	Children Program	500.00
Marion Senior High School	Quarterback Club	575.00
Mountain C. A. P.	Back to School	300.00
Sugar Grove School	4 th Grade Trip	300.00
Sugar Grove School	PTO Program	300.00
Marion Middle School	Drama Department Sound System	350.00
Smyth Career Tech Center	Fund Raiser	350.00
Marion Christmas Parade	Float	600.00
Chilhowie High School	Co-ed Hi Y Club	325.00
Marion Senior High School	Marion Wrestling	500.00
VPW of Virginia	Virginia War Memorial	600.00
Children Miracle Network	Research	100.00
Mount Zion Temple	Donation	100.00
Smyth County D.A.R.E.	Donation	100.00
VPW of Virginia	Uplink Program	100.00

Boy Scout Troop 93	Eagle Scout – Will Beaty	200.00
Marion Senior High School	Marion English Department	200.00
Chilhowie High School	Department of Social Studies– Voice of Democracy	200.00



John Thompson presents a check to Bill Falke for the Marion Civitan Club annual Fish-o-rama.



Ed Hagy presents a check to Jan Whisman and Carol Wolfe for Marion Dixie Baseball



Bill Sword presents a check to Jennifer Tibbs the Summer Read Program at the Smyth Bland Regional Library.



Harold Headlee presents a check to Stephanie and David Hoffman for the Marion Primary School 2nd grade trip to Dollywood.



Commander Turk Johnson presents a check to Ernest Olinger of Boy Scout Troop 93 for Philmont Scout Ranch



Joe Ellis presents a check to Megan Horn for the Marion Senior High School, School Spirit first year



Bill Sword presents a check to Patty Warren and Kyle Rhode, Smyth County School Board, for Rocking Reader Program



John Null presents a check to Teresa Hash the Marion Senior High School cross country meet.



Joe Ellis presents a check to Sheri and Cheyenne Campbell for Girl Scout Troop 309



Jim Haulsee presents a check to Tim Sauls for the Marion Senior High School Touch Down Club.

LADIES AUXILIARY

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Sisters,

Our many activities have kept us busy this quarter. We had membership drives at the Apple Festival, Open House at Mountain Empire Airport and at Wal-Mart. At these drives poppies and small flags were distributed. We helped Marion Primary School with apple butter making. We decorated the Post for the Appreciation Dinner with poppy centerpieces and new table linens.

In honor of Veterans Day we decorated a poppy wreath and placed it at the cemetery at Southwestern State Hospital in memory of the veterans buried there. Also, we attended the many Veterans Day programs held by the schools in the county.

We attended the Fall Council Meeting in Lexington, VA, School of Instructions in Bluefield, VA, as well as attending the District 9 Meeting in Narrows, VA.

During this quarter we lost two of our sisters, Grace Ellis and Alice Hutton. Our thoughts and prayers are extended to their families.

We wish you and your family a joyous Holiday Season!

Respectfully your President, Cora Lee Catron

LADIES AUXILIARY GAS AND GROCERY RAFFLE

We had a very successful raffle with the winners announced on October 29, 2008. The winners were:

GAS CARDS	
\$100.00	Linda Armstrong
\$ 50.00	Pam Tarter
\$ 50.00	Junior Horne
GROCERY CARDS	
\$ 50.00	Duane Rash
\$ 50.00	John Arthur

LADIES AUXILIARY NEW MEMBERS

New members are helping our Auxiliary to grow and become more supportive of the many activities of the Post. We welcome the following new members for the year 2008-2009: Virginia Baldwin, Delores Boehm, Betty Buchanan, Nancy Jane Corvin, Annetta Martin, Ellen Parks, Vicki Widener, Connie Elliott, Marion Hagy and Betty Ruth Williams.

VETERAN'S DAY MEMORY AND HONOR WREATH

The Ladies Auxiliary to the Marion VFW Post #4467 decorated and placed a Poppy Wreath at the cemetery of the Southwest Virginia Mental Institute in Marion, Va. At present there are 1,210 gravesites including some Civil War Confederate Veterans. VFW Post #4667 Color Guard presented the Colors. The Keystone Patriots presented a Flag presentation. A Reading by one of the Veteran's who is a patient was delivered. Rev. Neville Mazingo gave the Benediction. Token gifts were given to the six Veteran's who are presently in the Hospital.



DISTRICT MEETING

The Ninth District meeting will be held at Francis Marion Post 4667 on January 25, 2009 at 10:30 AM. If you plan on attending please let Commander Turk Johnson or Quartermaster Bill Sword know so they can be sure to have enough meals for everyone.

POST CHRISTMAS PARTY

The annual Post Christmas party will be held on Sunday, December 7, 2008 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.

SAM'S CLUB PRESENTS DONATION

At our September 4th meeting Mr. Al Diamond, Sam's Club Bristol, presented a check for \$1,000.00 to the Post for our continued support of community programs.



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA

Did you know that our department headquarters is located in Staunton, Virginia at 403 Lee Jackson Highway. Sometime when you're passing by Staunton stop in for a visit.

PURPLE HEART VETS: ENTER DRAWING FOR FREE TRIP TO VIETNAM

If you received a Purple Heart for being wounded in Vietnam, you could be one of 9 lucky vets to win VFW's "Return to Vietnam" trip.

This in-country tour from April 24-May 7, 2009, will visit Hanoi, Saigon, Chu Lai, Cu Chi, Hue, the DMZ, Hoi An, Marble Mountain and China Beach.

Airfare, accommodations and meals are included. Don't miss this chance to revisit battle sites and to share your experiences with fellow Vietnam vets.

Entries must be received prior to the drawing on Jan. 15, 2009. Winners will be notified by mail or e-mail in late January. To claim their trip, winners must send a copy of their Purple Heart documentation to VFW National Headquarters by Feb. 15, 2009, and their passport by March 1, 2009. (If you do not have a passport, please apply immediately.)

Note: Previous VFW-sponsored trip-winners to various events are not eligible.

Entry form is available at: <http://www.vfw.org/resources/pdf/vietnamtrip.pdf>

VFW POST 4667 BINGO

Have some free time on a Saturday evening. Give some thought to trying out Saturday night Bingo at the VFW. Early Bird starts at 6:00 PM and Regular Bingo starts at 7:00 PM. Proceeds from Bingo are used for donations to our community organizations. Bingo is open to everyone and you do not need to be a VFW member to attend. Hot dogs, chili-dogs, chili-buns, and soft drinks are available. The VFW provides a smoke free environment.

VETERANS DAY

Veterans Day is an opportunity to publicly commemorate the contributions of living veterans. Armistice Day officially received its name in America in 1926 through a congressional resolution. It became a national holiday 12 years later by similar congressional action.

If World War I had been "the war to end all wars," November 11 might be still called Armistice Day. Realizing that peace was equally preserved by veterans of World War II and Korea, Congress decided to make the day an occasion to honor all those who have served America. In 1954 President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a bill proclaiming November 11 as Veterans Day. (Historically, the first Veterans Day parade was held in 1953 in Emporia, Kansas.)

A law passed in 1968 changed the national commemoration of Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October. It soon became apparent, however, that November 11 was a date of historic significance to many Americans. Therefore, in 1978 Congress returned the observance to its traditional date.

VFW VETERANS MEMORIAL



The purpose for the memorial is to pay tribute to the military service members who have served their country honorably. These patriotic sacrifices will help all Americans to appreciate the freedoms we enjoy today, and to inspire future generations to continue to defend our Great Nation with willingness to sacrifice and endure as our ancestors have done.

The memorial is located at the VFW Post Home located at 861 Goolsby Street in Marion, Virginia. 24354.

The memorial was dedicated on Memorial Day 2004.

To have a name placed on the memorial, an application can be obtained at the VFW at downloaded at www.vfwpost4667.org. The person must have served honorably in U. S. Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force or Coast Guard. There is a \$50.00 fee for each name placed on the memorial.

If you have questions concerning the memorial or the application process please call the VFW at 276-783-7971 or you can Email your question to: vfw4667.commander@embarqmail.com.

FREE LEGAL FORMS

The Internet Legal Research Group (ILRG) provides a wide variety of free legal forms to the public. These forms can be obtained (downloaded) at <http://www.ilrg.com/forms/#estateplanning>. Forms are available for:

Business: Buying and Selling, Borrowing and Lending, Business Ventures, Credit and Collection, Employment, Leases and Real Estate, Protection of Legal Rights, Transfers and Assignments, Promulgated Corp. & Business, and Promulgated Tax Forms

Personal: Estate Planning, Marital and Family, Name Change, Power of Attorney, and Health Care

For those members that may want to prepare their own "Will" for estate planning, the below forms, from the ILRG Web site, are available in the VFW Post 4667 office. The forms are in Microsoft Word format. All forms are in a basic format and for the most part they are fill-in in the blank. The VFW can't provide any advice on the completion of the forms. ILRG toll free phone number is 1-800-987-9087.

- Last Will and Testament (Married Adult with Adult Children)
- Last Will and Testament (Married Adult with Minor Children)
- Last Will and Testament (Married Adult with No Children)
- Last Will and Testament (Single Adult with Adult Children)
- Last Will and Testament (Single Adult with Minor Children)
- Last Will and Testament (Single Adult with Minor Children, including Trust)
- Last Will and Testament (Single Adult with No Children)

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: Editor - Swamp Fox, P.O. Box 767, Marion, VA 24354 or email to: vfw4667.swampfox@embarqmail.com. Swamp Fox Editor: John Arthur

The Swamp Fox is available at: www.vfwpost4667.org. Comrade John Harmon maintains the Post web site. All comments or recommendation pertaining to the web site should be addressed to john.harmon@jharmon.com

FRANCIS MARION POST 4667

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. Inc.
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Permit No. 23
Marion, VA 24354

POST NEWSLETTER

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DECEMBER 2008