

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



Editors: Dale Vipperman and John Arthur

Lifetime Membership - It's easy, It's painless

<u>Attained Age</u>	<u>Life Membership 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

Comrades, I sincerely want to thank each and every one who contributed to our successes and achievements in 2002. We have much to be proud of. As we begin this new year with great expectations, let us not grow weary; there are many challenges to be completed in our communities. If we can touch but one child's life and open up new frontiers of learning, then all our hard work will have made a difference.

In August we start our new membership campaign for 2002-2003. We must maintain a strong base of support. I encourage each of you to always look for new members. Our current membership is 1027. Remember our *MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN* is a continuing process throughout the year.

Last year was without question a super year. We had many positive achievements that improved our Post, our fellowship, and community support. As Commander I am proud to say that you never disappoint, you always amaze me with your concern, wisdom, and hard work. No Commander could ask for a greater group of comrades to serve with and *I salute each of you.*

Thanks to the hard work of our scholarship committee, we increased our Scholarship Program by adding three \$500 scholarship to community colleges and increased the four-year college scholarship to \$2,000.00. Our community Activities Record Book was judged best in the state and went for national judging. Keep up the good work!!!

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

05-02-2002 Stephen A. Roberts

STATE CONVENTION 2002-2003 ELECTED OFFICERS

Commander	Larry Matera
Sr. Vice Commander	Pete Snelling
Jr. Vice Commander	Mike Hainess
Judge Advocate	Tom Hines
State Surgeon	Dan Boyer

Congratulations to our comrades on their accomplishments. We look forward to working with them.

ALUMINUM SALE

July 10, 2002 - \$749.12 was raised from the sale of aluminum.

A WORD FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Meditation – Real hope is more than wishful thinking. False hope has no expectation. But real hope is sustained by God’s Word and the expectation that the thing hoped for will be received. For those who trust in God, hope is the constant companion of faith. Real hope built on God’s Word, and on Jesus Christ, will not disappoint those who have it.

Chaplain – Haskin Kinser

TAPS

Since our last publication, it is sad to report that the following 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.

11-04-01	Cardwell, Allen W.	515 Shuler Hollow Rd.	Chilhowie	24319
12-26-01	Herndon, Hubert E.	PO Box 1039	Saltville	24370
01-26-02	Bedwell, William Jr.	838 Loves Mill Rd.	Chilhowie	24319
03-12-02	Werth, Frederick M. (L)	RT2 Box 87A	Rural Retreat	24368
03-16-02	Henderson, Tracy E.	440 Adwolfe Rd.	Marion	24354
03-17-02	Greer, Arthur E.	1155 Snider St.	Marion	24354
04-02-02	Adams, Ralph N. (L)	PO Box 934	Saltville	24370
04-09-02	Smith, Noah F. (L)	PO Box 803	Glade Springs	24340
04-11-02	Parks, Roy Edward (L)	738 Dover St.	Marion	24354
04-19-02	Colley, Willis	652 Goolsby St.	Marion	24354
05-09-02	Slagle, Fred W.	925 Hutton St.	Marion	24354
05-25-02	Romans, R. Lemual	623 Henry St.	Marion	24354
05-26-02	Brook, Claude C.	228 Henderson St.	Marion	24354
06-17-02	Frye, Fred	409 Upper Poor Valley Rd.	Saltville	24370
06-17-02	Newberry, Robert G.	515 Shuler Hollow Rd.	Chilhowie	24319

RIFLE SQUAD AND FUNERAL DETAIL

As of July 4, 2002 the Rifle Squad and Funeral Detail have participated in 26 funerals with 11 being for VFW members and 6 Color Guard details.

9th DISTRICT MEETING FOR SEPTEMBER 2002

The next 9th District meeting will be held at Bluefield, VA September 22nd. Registration 10:30-11:30 AM, joint session 11:30 AM-12:00 Noon, lunch 12:00 Noon and the meeting will follow.

NEWS FROM THE AUXILIARY

VFW Post 4667 Ladies Auxiliary officers

President	Della Kinser
Senior Vice	Louise Hampton
Junior Vice	Ruth Dishner
Treasurer	Lena Wyatt
Chaplain	Lorraine Heath
Secretary	Nancy Hill
Conductress	Lyla Johnson
Guard	Alice Hutton
Trustee	Mildred Earnest
Patriotic Instructor	Reba Matheson
Historian	Joanne Haulsee

We will be having a yard sale in August. It will be announced on T.V.

9Th DISTRICT OFFCER AND COMMITTEES

Commander:	Wesley H. Dixon
Senior Vice Commander:	James D. Haulsee
Junior Vice Commander:	Milton Dye
Quartermaster:	Essie D. Cline
Chaplain:	Tommy Leuthen
Judge Advocate:	Berry F Greene
Surgeon:	John Whitlow
1 Year Trustee:	Beulah C. Morehead
2 Year Trustee:	Steve Mitchell
3 Year Trustee:	William Sword
Inspector:	Noah Coleman
Service Officer:	James D. Haulsee
Buddy Poppy:	Essie Cline
Membership:	James D. Haulsee
Community Activities:	Milton Dye
Safety:	Milton Dye
Voice of Democracy:	Homer K. Bowen Jr.
Patriotic Pen:	Milton Dye
Chief of Staff:	James D. Haulsee

SCHOLARSHIPS

\$2,000.00 For Four Year College

Mary Ellen Jones	Rural Retreat	Gardner-Webb University
Kelly Marie Ellis	Marion	Emory & Henry
Brian J. Crewey	Marion	Virginia Tech

\$500.00 For Community College

Jennifer Burkett	Rural Retreat	Wytheville Community College
Scott A. Wilson Jr.	Mt. Airy, NC	Surry Community College
Ashley G. Davidson	Atkins	Virginia Highlands Community College

DONATIONS

Atkins Elementary School	\$500.00
Marion Senior High School	\$2,000.00
Rich Valley Elementary School	\$1,200.00
Marion Little League	\$500.00
American Cancer Society	\$750.00
March of Dimes	\$1,500.00
Young Life	\$1,000.00
Blue Ridge Job Corps	\$1,625.00
Hopkins View Church	\$300.00
Marion Middle School	\$750.00
Chilhowie High School	\$400.00
Marion Morning Rotary	\$1,000.00
Mt. Community Service Board	\$400.00
Northwood High School	\$300.00
Riverside Ruritan	\$300.00
S.C.A.L.E.	\$360.00
Smyth Career and Development	\$500.00
Smyth County Free Clinic	\$1,000.00
Smyth County Historical Museum Society	\$800.00
Marion Intermediate School	\$500.00
Virginia Veterans	\$300.00
Pre-Teen America Scholarship	\$295.00
Northwood High School	\$750.00
Marion Senior High School	\$1,000.00
Smyth Career Technology Center	\$300.00
July 4 th Fireworks	\$300.00

The Fire Departments and Rescue Squads from Rural Retreat, Sugar Grove, Tannersville, Troutdale, Chilhowie, Marion, Mt. Rogers, Adwolve, Atkins, New Cove, Rugby, and Rich Valley/Nebo each received a donation of \$1,500.00. This quarter we donated \$53,530.00 to our communities.

***We pledge allegiance to the Flag
of the United States of America
and to the Republic, for which it stands
one Nation, under God
Indivisible with liberty and justice for all.***

Standing for American Values

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Court Declares Pledge Of Allegiance Unconstitutional

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, the nation's premier veterans' group and patriotic organization, are seething over the 9th U.S. Circuit court of Appeals ruling declaring the nation's Pledge of Allegiance unconstitutional. The ruling, which affects children in public schools in nine Western states, said the pledge cannot be recited in public schools because the phrase "under God" endorses religion.

VFW Seething Over Decision

"The Pledge of Allegiance has long been the bulwark of American pride and patriotism," said VFW Commander-in-Chief James N. Goldsmith of Lapeer, Mich. "It is an unconscionable act by our court system, especially when patriotism is renewing the spirit of our nation. In no uncertain terms will the 2.7 million members of the VFW and its Ladies Auxiliary tolerate this total disregard for the patriotic values our Pledge symbolizes. We fully condemn the actions of the 9th court and will dedicate all our resources to fighting this decision."

JOB WELL DONE

To support the Post Commander there are a number of VFW members who give unselfishly of their time and experience to help improve our Post and communities. For the most part these members go unrecognized. They do not serve to seek publicity. Their accomplishments are seldom highlighted but we all benefit from their hard work. To those who do not get their names placed in the headlines or mentioned the Commander and Officers of VFW Post 4667 applaud their efforts. It takes a team effort to make an organization success.

12TH ANNUAL VFW POST4667 ROY ERNEST MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Roy Ernest was a Post Trustee for many years and Post Commander from July 1978 until his death on June 13, 1982. He started the post's life membership program that has grown to 500 life members - the largest such program in the Ninth District and seventh largest in the state.

Where: Holston Hill County Club, Marion, Virginia
When: Tuesday, September 10, 2002. Tee Time: 12:30 PM
Format: Captain's choice. Four man teams will be determined by the Tournament Committee. Play from Gold Tees.

- Rules:
1. Each team must use at least one (1) tee shot from every member on each regulation 9 holes. Mark your score card to indicate this choice.
 2. You may place the ball for every shot within one club length of the chosen ball no closer to the hole. Ball cannot be removed from the rough, hazard, or placed onto green.
 3. When putting, you may tap-in without penalty.
 4. Three man teams - Each player will alternate putting twice upon reaching the green, but only three shots will be played elsewhere.

Prizes: 1st Place \$100.00 Gift Certificate (4 @ \$25.00)
2nd Place \$60.00 Gift Certificate (4 @ \$15.00)
3rd place \$40.00 Gift Certificate (4 @ \$10.00)

Prizes for nearest to pin on par 3 holes and longest drive.

Hamburgers on the patio from 11:300 AM to 12:00 PM

ENTRY FORM: Cut along dotted line and returned to VFW Post 4667, PO Box 767,
Marion, Virginia 24354

ELIGIBILITY: VFW MEMBER TIME: September 10, 2002 - 12:30 PM
NAME: _____ TELEPHONE: _____
TOWN/STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
HANDICAP: _____ Holston Hill Country Club Members.

***** OR *****

HANDICAP: _____ LOWEST SCORE: _____ WHERE?? _____
ENTRY FEE: Holston Hills Country Club Members\$15.00
Non-HHCC Members\$30.00
Make Check Payable to VFW Post 4667 Golf Tournament

*****PLEASE RETURN BEFORE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2002 *****

Donation from VFW Post 4667 Help Local LPN Win HOSA Outstanding Alumni of the Nation

Teresa Vipperman, wife of Dale Vipperman who is a life member of VFW Post # 4667 recently won the Award for HOSA Alumni of the year at the National Conference in Anaheim, CA. When asked about the award Mrs. Vipperman stated “that in order to win the award you had to be present, and without the assistance of the VFW post she would not have been able to attend”. She further stated “that she was very grateful to the post for the Donation they made to the Smyth Career and Technology Center, which is the LPN school that sent her to the competition”. Mrs. Vipperman stated “that it is Veteran Organizations like the VFW and their members that keeps the American way of Life intact.” The competition was held from June 26, 2002 thru June 30, 2002. There were over 6,000 students from around the nation at the conference. Mrs. Vipperman was the first person from the Smyth Career and Technology Center to win first place at the National Level for HOSA, which stands for Health Occupation Students of America.

Fish-O-Rama

On July 16th and 18th members of VFW Post 4667 and the Civitan Club sponsored a fishing trip for local children to Cedar Springs. A total of 280 children participated and caught 275 pounds of fish. A good time was had by all. Each VFW and Civitan member traveled approximately 60 miles per day and worked 6 six hours each day helping the children. If you ask, I’m sure Joe Ellis can tell you about the one that got away. VFW members who volunteered to help are:

BJ Atwood
John Thompson
John Crabtree
Joe Ellis

Claude Heath
Gordon Patton
Carl Perkins
B. Williams

Bill Falke
Herbert Haulsee
Jim Millinger

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS - INTRO TO VONAPP

The VONAPP (Veterans On Line Applications) website is an official U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) website designed so individuals can apply for benefits through the Internet. This is a first step towards an electronic VA. VONAPP allows veterans electronic access to file applications on-line.

U.S. military veterans and some service members within six months of separation or retirement can apply for compensation, pension, and vocational rehabilitation benefits.

U.S. military veterans, service members with two years of service, and members of the Selected Reserve can apply for education benefits.

How is using this site different from visiting a VA office?

When you use this site to complete and send an application to VA, your application will be sent directly to the VA office with jurisdiction over your application. Processing will

begin right away, and you will receive a response from the VA office letting you know the status of your application.

If you use the VA Form 21-526, you will be using a special form with a design based on the results of research in readability and the use of plain English.

VA Forms now available in VONAPP

VA Form 21-526, Veteran's Application for Compensation and/or Pension

VA Form 28-1900, Disabled Veterans Application for Vocational Rehabilitation

VA Form 22-1990, Application for Education Benefits

For further information or to use VONAPP go to:

<http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp>

For those do not have a computer or do not have a computer with internet access, the Smyth Bland Regional Library has computers set up with internet access for use by the public. The computers are located in the reference section of the library.

VFW Post 4667 meets the first Thursday of each month at our Post Home on Goolsby Street. Our fellowship and meal begins at 6:00 PM with the business meeting starting at 7:00 PM. We encourage all members to attend meetings to learn about the VFW, keep informed on local veteran's affairs, learn how we can help our community, enjoy fellowship. To be a success it takes a team effort - Please be part of the team and participate.

The Swamp Fox is published three times a year in March, July, and December. We welcome letters or recommended articles to be included in the paper. 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 post activities, military news, or items of general interest to veterans. Letters should be addressed to: FRANCIS MARION POST 4667, Attn: Editor Swamp Fox, P.O. Box 767, Marion, VA 24354

FRANCIS MARION POST 4667
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. Inc.
P.O. Box 767
Marion, VA 24354
276-783-7971

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 23
Marion, VA 24354

POST NEWSLETTER

THE SWAMP FOX

JULY 2002