



# The Swamp Fox

VFW Post 4667 Newsletter

July 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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<b>Lifetime Membership Fees</b>	
<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
<i>See John Null for details</i>	

## **COMMANDERS CORNER**

Comrades, I thank each and every one who contributed to our successes and achievements in 2003. Your cooperation-operation is unbelievable. Thank you again for a job well done.

As we begin this new year with great expectations, let us not forget our brave military personnel who now guard the gates of freedom in Iraq. They put their lives on the line in so many ways that we often forget. Iraq remains a very dangerous theater of operation. Let us never forget these brave men and women who sacrifice so much for our fine nation.

There are many challenges to be completed in our communities. This year may we reach out and touch someone who needs a human touch in their life. If we can touch but one child's life that will open up new frontiers of learning and caring, then all of our sacrifices will have made a difference.

In July, we start our new membership campaign for 2003-2004. We must maintain a strong base of support. I would encourage each of you to always look for new members. Our current membership is 1,014. A *GOOD MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN* goes on twelve months a year.

Last year 2002-2003 was a good year. We had many positive things happen: 1) We achieved our goal of 100% membership; however, we did not make the ALL STATE TEAM, 2) We received the Jennifer C. Byler Award of Excellence which recognizes gaming organizations for their outstanding quality of service to both their organization and community. The commission also recognized that these goals could not be attained without talented members who volunteer their services and time, and who contribute enormously to charitable causes. To our Bingo Team THANK YOU for a job well done. This was your second award of excellence in three years from the commission – keep up the great work, 3) A Veterans Memorial Committee was appointed to do a feasibility study to erect a memorial to include location, design, and costs. This committee is currently working to determine all these factors.

Each one of you makes a difference in the direction this post will take so let us set our sights high. God Bless each of you and ***GOD BLESS AMERICA!!!***

### **Welcome To New Members**

Steve L. Kokkinako

John Long

Davie Wayne Stacy

CALLING ALL CANDIDATES FOR POST 4667 OFFICERS

Anyone who would be willing or knows of someone who would be willing to serve as an officer next year for the Post, please forward that name on to the Nominating Committee (Bob White, Hilton Greer, Curtis Anderson or Roy Guillion).

## A Word From The Chaplain

The history of the human race reveals that power, political, social, and economic has corrupted many people. In contrast to this, there is a power that purifies and consensates people to God. This power is imported to Christians by the Holy Spirit. On this note, we are reminded that the Spirit is available to us and we need this power in our lives. Jesus commanded his Disciples to remain in Jerusalem for the Holy Spirit promised by the Father in the Old Testament Prophecies. As we look at the world conditions and even the bad things that are happening in our country, to me it is frightening at times, but let us not forget that God is still in control. We as Christians should pray every day to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

## TAPS

With sincere sadness and regret, 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.

02-21-03	L	Idol, Tilmon A. Jr.	711 Anderson St.	Marion	24354
02-22-03	L	Rector, C.H.	1150 West Lee Highway	Chilhowie	24319
02-23-03	L	Combs, Manual A.	RT 1 Box 191	Troutdale	24378
02-28-03	L	Stamper, Jerry W.	323 Richmond Ave.	Rural Retreat	24368
03-06-03	L	Hamm, Leonard R.	RT2 Box 142-F	Rural Retreat	24368
03-06-03	L	Hamm, Lee J.	PO Box 117	Chilhowie	24319
03-06-03		Moore, Roger S.	2770 Highway 16 South	Marion	24354
03-20-03	L	Martin, Harold W.	39632 Tallwoods Dr.	Chilhowie	24319
05-09-03	L	Webb, John E. Jr.	PO Box 1148	Chilhowie	24319
05-10-03		Bales, Walter R.	694 Bear Creek Rd.	Atkins	24311
05-06-03		Heath, Arthur K.	563 Friendly Circle	Marion	24354
05-15-03		Pennington, Willie F.	118 Seven Mile Ford Rd.	Marion	24354
05-19-03	C	Paschal, Hugh A.	960 Country Club Rd.	Marion	24354
05-22-03		Tilson, Roy A.	1068 Matson Dr.	Marion	24354
06-03-03		Powers, Donald	PO Box 744	Chilhowie	24319
06-04-03	L	Church, Clarence M.	PO Box 86	Mt. Home,TN	37684
06-05-03	L	Cornett, Raymond S.	542 Chatham Hill Rd.	Marion	24354
06-16-03		Aker, Elva C.	PO Box 248	Chilhowie	24319
06-20-03	L	Umbarger, David H.	PO Box 41	Max Meadows	24360
06-20-03		Blevins, Luther K.	335 Shuler Hollow Rd.	Chilhowie	24319

## ***NEWS FROM THE AUXILIARY***

Ladies Auxiliary Officers:

President	Della Kinser
Senior Vice	Louise Hampton
Junior Vice	Cora Lee Catron
Treasurer	Lena Wyatt
Chaplain	Lorraine Heath
Secretary	Nancy Hill
Guard	Ruth Dishner
Conductress	Lila Johnson
Patriotic Instructor	Reba Matheson
Trustee	Della Warren
Honor Guard	
Color Bearer #1	Cora Lee Catron
Color Bearer #2	Reba Matheson
Color Bearer #3	Louise Hampton
Color Bearer #4	Lena Wyatt
Banner Bearer	Lila Johnson
Flag Bearer	Nancy Hill
Musician	Helen Thatcher
Hospital Chairman	Lena Wyatt

Ladies, if you are Life Members will you please pay you cancer insurance - \$4.95.  
Thank you.

Our meetings are on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month. We are meeting at 7:00 PM at the Post Home on June 21<sup>st</sup>. Please come out.

The Ladies Auxiliary will be having an In Door Yard Sale at the VFW Hut August 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. -- Della Kinser, President

### **Scholarships**

This year the Post awarded three \$2,000.00 scholarships to those attending four-year colleges and three \$500.00 scholarships to those attending community colleges.

Jessee Coe	Virginia Tech	\$2,000.00
Cy Mathew Bowlin	Virginia Tech	\$2,000.00
David Clay Ewald	Eastern Kentucky University	\$2,000.00
Edward C. Wood III	Virginia Highlands	\$500.00
Crystal R. Powers	Virginia Highlands	\$500.00
Jessica Wienbarger	Virginia Highlands	\$500.00

## **POST 4667 OFFICERS FOR 2003 - 2004**

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

Congratulations to Jim Haulsee for also being elected to District Commander.

## **DONATIONS**

For the period ending May 31, 2003 the following donations have been made to our communities:

Mt Rogers Shelter Home	\$500.00
Agape Outreach Ministry	\$350.00
American Red Cross	\$500.00
Atkins Elementary School	\$300.00
Chilhowie Little League	\$500.00
March of Dimes	\$1,000.00
Marion Intermediate School	\$900.00
Rich Valley Elementary School	\$875.00
Smyth Bland Children Library	\$300.00
Boy Scouts Mountain Empire District	\$1,500.00
Chilhowie Elementary School	\$500.00
Habitat for Humanity	\$500.00
Marion Primary School	\$400.00
Northwood High School	\$300.00
Sugar Grove Combined School	\$300.00
Northwood High School	\$825.00
Adwolfe Volunteer Fire Department	\$1,500.00
Atkins Volunteer Fire Department	\$1,500.00
Chilhowie Rescue Squad	\$1,500.00
Chilhowie Volunteer Fire Department	\$1,500.00
Marion Lifesaving Crew	\$1,500.00
Marion Fire Department	\$1,500.00
Mt. Rogers Rescue Squad	\$1,500.00
Mt. Rogers Volunteer Fire Department	\$1,500.00
New Cove Rescue Squad	\$1,500.00
New Cove Volunteer Fire Department	\$1,500.00
Nebo Volunteer Fire Department	\$1,500.00
Rugby Rescue Squad	\$1,500.00
Rugby Volunteer Fire Department	\$1,500.00

## **DONATIONS (Continued)**

Rural Retreat Rescue Squad	\$1,500.00
Rural Retreat Volunteer Fire Department	\$1,500.00
Saltville Rescue Squad	\$1,500.00
Saltville Volunteer Fire Department	\$1,500.00
Sugar Grove Lifesaving Crew	\$1,500.00
Sugar Grove Volunteer Fire Department	\$1,500.00
Tannersville Rescue Squad	\$1,500.00
Tannersville Volunteer Fire Department	\$1,500.00
Troutdale Rescue Squad	\$1,500.00
Troutdale Volunteer Fire Department	\$1,500.00
Boy Scouts of American Troop 190	\$360.00
Eagle Mountain Retreat	\$350.00
Marion Intermediate School	\$960.00
S.C.A.L.E.	\$360.00
Sugar Grove Combined School	\$400.00
Marion Middle School	\$1,000.00
Marion Intermediate School	\$400.00
Northwood High School	\$700.00
Boy Scouts of American Troop 93	\$1,000.00
Loaves & Fishes Chilhowie Area Food Pantry	\$500.00
Smyth County Free Clinic	\$1,000.00
Young Life	\$1,000.00
Marion Senior High School	\$100.00
Girl Scout Troop 342	\$200.00
Multiple Sclerosis Society	\$200.00
Liberty Freewill Baptist	\$30.00
Central Christian Church	\$30.00
Chilhowie High School	\$100.00
Chilhowie High School	\$200.00
Girl Scout Troop 157	\$200.00
Marion Senior High School	\$250.00
Marion Rotary Club	\$200.00
American Cancer Society	\$500.00

Total: \$54,115.00

## **Veterans Memorial**

At the July 2002 VFW meeting, Commander Bill Sword appointed the following Post members to a Veterans Memorial committee: John Arthur, Thomas Bartlet, Henry Brant, Algie Crouse, Claude Dean, John Harmon, Herbert Hart, Roger Haulsee, Roy McNeil, Andy Snow, John Taminger, Cecil Carter and Marshall Guy (chairman).

Two sub-committees were set up: 1) Site Committee, chaired by Roy McNeil, to look for a site to construct the memorial, and 2) Design Committee, chaired by Roger Haulsee, to design the memorial. After looking at several sites in the Marion area, the site committee

## Veterans Memorial (Continued)

recommended that the memorial be built on the southwest corner of our parking lot, adjoining Goolsby St. and the Earnest property. Since this property is located in the county and zoned residential, we had to apply for a special use permit to build on this location. This took two months to file the application and submit it to the planning commission. The planning commission approved our request and on March 11, the Board of Supervisors also approved the request.

We then applied for a variance to the setback requirements of the zoning ordinance from 60 ft to 30 ft. The Smyth County Board of Zoning Appeals denied our request at the May meeting of the Board of Supervisors. The setback distance was changed from 60 ft. to 40 ft. After the change in setback requirements, we were back in business and the Design Committee met with Bill White, our architect, who is working on details for the monument. We are hoping to give a complete detail of the memorial at the July meeting.

## **POST 4667 AWARDED THE 2002 Jennifer C. Byler Award Of Excellence**

The Post received a letter dated April 28, 2003 from the Stanley J. Lapekas, Executive Secretary, Commonwealth of Virginia, Charitable Gaming Commission. In part the letter reads:

“The Virginia Charitable Gaming Commission (the “Commission”) is please to announce that your organization is the recipient of a 2002 Jennifer C. Byler Award of Excellence (the “Byler Award”). The Byler Award recognizes qualified permitted charitable gaming organizations for their outstanding quality of service to both their organization and community, and their efforts toward enhancing the image of charitable gaming in the Commonwealth of Virginia. In addition, the Byler Award also recognizes the outstanding social services provided by these organizations, and their ability to provide services to people and organization in need – the true goal of charitable giving. Of course, the Commission also recognizes that these goals could not be attained without talented members who volunteer their services and time, and who contribute enormously to charitable causes.

I am extremely proud and grateful for the dedication that each organization has demonstrated toward their communities. It is endearing to see people pull together to help someone pay their utilities when on is struggling with either a health or financial crisis, to pay for repairs to a vehicle so that someone who needs transportation for medical services can keep their medically important appointments, and donate monies to a transitional housing facility for homeless to self-sufficiency. These are just a few of the wonderful examples of the charitable work that your organizations have performed for the period October 1, 2001 through September 30, 2002.

It is also important and worth noting that your organization and its members are also setting an example for others, particularly children, on what it means to make a commitment to people and communities or through monetary contributions.”

## Jennifer C. Byler Award Of Excellence (Continued)

The above award was given to 5 other organizations (Voice of the Blue Ridge, Roanoke, Ruritan Club of Eastern Henrico and Ruritan Club of Varina, Richmond, Ruritan Club of the Piankatank, Cobbs Creek, VFW-Virginia Third District, Mechanicsville, Lions Club of Mechanicsville, Mechanicsville) in addition to VFW Post 4667.

A hearty *Thank You* and *Well Done* to all the Post members who unselfishly donated their time to help with Saturday night Bingo.

## HOW TO SIGN UP NEW MEMBERS

**First**, find out if the veteran is eligible. If you have a question on eligibility, call the Post Home at 783-7971.

**Second**, explain benefits of belonging to VFW such as:

- ✓ 12 free meals,
- ✓ 12 copies of VFW magazine,
- ✓ free accident insurance,
- ✓ helping with Post projects, veterans fellowship,
- ✓ and our Post Service Officer who will work with you on veteran's benefits.

**Third**, you get all the above for only \$15 a year. Where else could you find a bargain like this?

Only a veteran has earned the right to belong to the VFW. We are proud of our motto: "*We honor the dead by helping the living.*" If you know of a veteran that is not a member, please make an effort to sign them up. You can pick-up a membership application at our next meeting.

## \*\*\* POST 4667 MEMBERSHIP \*\*\*

Our Post has several very important programs such as Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, Funeral Detail, our kitchen staff, aluminum products project for the purchase of flags, Americanism and Safety programs, Salvation Army "Red Kettles", and our most important money raising project, Bingo, and other projects that we are involved with throughout the year.

*MEMBERSHIP* has to be our most important programs. Without members we could not be successful with any of our projects. We have been one of the top Posts in the Department of Virginia for many years based on our community service work and our membership.

To help keep our Post as one of the best in Virginia, we need your membership dues and we could use them as early as possible. We always need to be looking for new members. This year, our Post will pay first year dues for Iraqi War Veterans. If you know a veteran of this war, please sign him up.

Our membership for the coming year has been set at 1014. With *YOUR HELP*, we can reach this quota by January 2004.

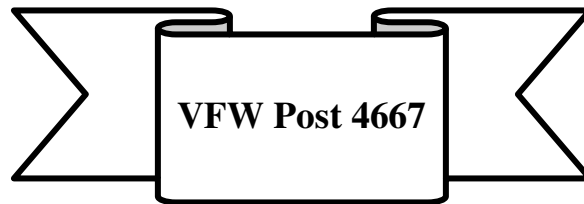
--James Haulsee, Sr. Vice Commander and Membership Chairman



## VOLUNTEERS

- 1). Money donated to our communities comes from Bingo.
- 2). Bingo players make Bingo possible.
- 3). VFW volunteers run Bingo night.
- 4). **No new VFW volunteers to help with Bingo, then number 1) will be significantly impacted!**

***Volunteers are needed to help with Bingo night PERIOD!!!*** Please take a close look at your schedule and see if you can't spare one Saturday night once a month. We are losing Bingo workers and desperately need more volunteers. See John Thompson or Commander Sword to volunteer.



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 John Arthur at [johnarthurjr@area-net.com](mailto:johnarthurjr@area-net.com).

***The Swamp Fox*** is available at [www.vfw4667.org](http://www.vfw4667.org). The Post web site is voluntarily maintained by comrade John Harmon. All comments or recommendation pertaining to the site should be addressed to [john.harmon@jharmon.com](mailto:john.harmon@jharmon.com)

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

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

**FRANCIS MARION POST 4667**  
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. Inc.  
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U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 23  
Marion, VA 24354

POST NEWSLETTER

THE SWAMP FOX

JULY 2003