



The Swamp Fox

VFW Post 4667 Newsletter

March 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
Trustees	Cecil Carter
	Roger Haulsee
	Roy R. McNeil



Inside This Issue

- 2 - Commanders Corner
- 2 - Welcome to New Members
- 2 - Rifle Squad and Funeral Detail
- 3 - Taps
- 3 - News From the Auxiliary
- 3 - Message From the Chaplain
- 3 - Scholarships
- 4 - Donations
- 4 - Veteran's Memorial Construction
- 5 - Memorial Name Application
- 7 - Voice of Democracy
- 7 - Patriot's Pen
- 7 - VA Burial & Memorial Benefits
- 12 - Roy Ernest Golf Tournament
- 12 - Letter From Harry Scott

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

I would like to take this opportunity to say a very special thank you to all who have participated in making our Post such a huge success during my tenure as your Commander. As I have stated in the past, what a marvelous group of individuals we have here in Post 4667.

Because of your service I had to make a very difficult decision, not to run again for Commander. After careful consideration it became abundantly clear that I have completed the job to which I was elected and someone I feel that it is someone else's turn to lead us to greater heights.

To my outstanding Officers, I thank each of you for going the extra mile many, many times during the past five years. You have accomplished so many great things. The contributions you have made to our communities are immeasurable. Again I say thanks to each and every one of you.

To my appointed Adjutant who always made sure I was on time for meetings, made arrangements for all functions of this Post, he was and is "Mr. VFW Post 4667", Comrade Cecil Carter.

Please feel assured that I will continue to serve you in any position that I can contribute to the continuing Post success.

There are too many fine individuals at the Post for me to personally thank each and everyone. Those who helped know who they are and can feel comfortable in the fact that I very much appreciated your support, dedication, and help. I thank you all for making my tenure rewarding and enjoyable. God Bless you all.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Benny S. Coletti Jr.	Adron Counts	Kenneth M Cox	David W. Stacy
Jared W. Flowers	Ricky V. Jones	David W. Lamie	James M. Teague
John E. Long Jr.	Matthew B. Russell	George C. Solt	

RIFLE SQUAD AND FUNERAL DETAIL

For the year January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2003 the Rifle Squad and Funeral Detail has participated in 58 funerals (28 VFW members and 30 Non-members), 23 Color Guard details, volunteered 1,788 man-hours, and driven 16,595 miles.

We sincerely thank the below listed members of the Rifle Squad and Funeral Detail for giving of their time to pay tribute to our fellow veterans who have honorably served their country. Regardless of weather conditions these fine men have always been there to honor those who have served.

(Member name/attendance for 2003)

Curtis Anderson	3	Major Bowen	59	Jimmy Coe	18
Richard Dolinger	33	Joe Ellis	26	Roy Gullion	14
James Hampton	17	Claude Harris	18	James Haulsee	34
Claude Heath	10	Porter Heath	54	Robert Hill	13
Turk Johnson	17	Robert Jones	14	Haskin Kinser	45
Edward Kuhn	17	Otis Long	35	Cecil Pafford	43
Ed Pennington	13	Roy Pennington	15	Odell Sheets	2
Abe Slep	22	Charles Thomas	3	Benjamin Umbarger	38
Max Waak	16				

TAPS

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. From January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2003 we lost 41 Post members (21 Life Members, 1 Charter Member, and 19 Members).

NEWS FROM THE AUXILIARY

The VFW Ladies Auxiliary 4667 meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 2:00 P.M.. Come on out and be with us. Life members are urged to mail in their cancer insurance dues of \$4.95 as soon as possible. Mail to treasurer: Lena L. Wyatt, 628 Railroad, Marion, VA 24354. The continuous members of Ladies Auxiliary are urged to mail in their \$18.00 dues as soon as possible. Thanks – President – Della Kinser

A WORD FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Unity Shattered by Sin: Meditation – Unity, whether in a cause good or bad, is a powerful force for getting things done. However, sin is always destruction.

When the past – flood people united to proudly defy God. His judgment and their sinful intention shattered their unity. Had they been united in doing good, God would have blessed their unity and endeavors. – Haskin Kinser – Chaplain

SCHOLARSHIPS

VFW Post 4667 will again award six scholarships this year. There will three - \$2,000.00 scholarships awarded to students attending a 4-year college or university and three - \$1,000.00 scholarships awarded to students attending a community college.

Applications may be picked up at VFW Post 4667; McNeil Furniture Company at 227 East Main St., Marion, VA, 24354; or at any Smyth County High School Guidance Office. You may also request an application from VFW Post 4667, P. O. Box 767, Marion, VA., 24354, and one will be mailed to you.

Any high school senior is eligible to submit an application. Families of VFW members will receive priority. Application return deadline is May 5, 2004.

DONATIONS

Voice of Democracy

Zachary L. Landis (Chilhowie Senior High School	\$300.00
Kaci Tuell (Chilhowie Senior High School	\$200.00
Amber L Anderson (Marion Senior High School	\$100.00
Chilhowie Senior High School Sponsor – Joyce Untiedt	\$200.00
Marion Senior High School Sponsor – Jennifer Daniel	\$200.00

Patriot's Pen

Ne'Lea J. Dotson	\$200.00
Chandler C. Hopkins	\$150.00
Julianna B. Sullivan	\$50.00
Samuel J. Burrows	\$50.00
Marion Middle School Sponsor – Cynthia Robertson	\$200.00
Virginia Tech – Jessie Coe scholarship	\$1,000.00
Virginia Tech – Cy M. Bowlin scholarship	\$1,000.00
Vince Groseclose – Teacher of the Year	\$200.00
Salvation Army	\$30.00
Red Kettle drive for Salvation Army	\$100.00
Marion Little League Poppie sales	\$1,000.00

VETERANS MEMORIAL CONSTRUCTION ON SCHEDULE

The block foundation for the memorial was completed in December, no construction work was scheduled for January or February. The granite walls were ordered in December and will be delivered in March. When the granite walls are in place and construction near completion we will start putting the names on the memorial. The dedication date for the memorial has been set for Memorial Day, May 30, 2004. Details for the program will be announced later.

Our plans call for the names of veterans past and present to be engraved on the walls reminding current and future generations of the sacrifices and vigilance required to maintain America's unique brand of freedom. Nominees must have honorably served in the US Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force or Coast Guard.

If you would like to have a name on the monument before dedication date, please fill out the application in this newsletter, enclose a check for \$50 and mail to the address shown on the application. You may submit as many names as you want, if they meet the requirements listed on the application and pay \$50 for each name. Names can and will be placed on the memorial after the dedication. You may make additional copies of the application or pick up applications at McNeil Furniture Co., Computer Solution located next to Food Lion, Chilhowie Town Hall, Saltville Town Hall, and VFW Post 4667 located on Goolsby Street. As of this date we have received 321 applications. Marshall Guy, Chairman of Memorial Committee.

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 2003 – 2004 WINNERS

First Place Zachary L Landis Chilhowie Senior High School
Second Place Kaci Tuell Chilhowie Senior High School
Third Place Amber L Anderson Marion Senior High School

Marion Senior High School sponsor: Jennifer Daniel
Chilhowie Senior High School sponsor: Joyce Untiedt

9th District First Place Winner
Travis J. Mitchell Post 7136 Tazewell High School

PATRIOT'S PEN 2003 – 2004 WINNERS

First Place Ne'Lea J. Dotson
Second Place Chandler C. Hopkins
Third Place Julianna B. Sullivan
Samuel J. Burrows

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION BURIAL & MEMORIAL BENEFITS

The VA furnishes upon request, at no charge to the applicant, a Government headstone or marker for the grave of any deceased eligible veteran in any cemetery around the world. For all deaths occurring before September 11, 2001, the VA may provide a headstone or marker only for graves that are not marked with a private headstone.

Flat markers in granite, marble, and bronze, and upright headstones in granite and marble are available. The style chosen must be consistent with existing monuments at the place of burial. Niche markers are also available to mark columbaria used for inurnment of cremated remains.

Persons Eligible for a Government Headstone or Marker in a Private Cemetery

a. Veterans and Members of the Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard)

(1) Any member of the Armed Forces of the United States who dies on active duty.

(2) Any veteran who was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable. With certain exceptions, service beginning after September 7, 1980, as an enlisted person, and service after October 16, 1981, as an officer, must be for a minimum of 24 months or the full period for which the person was called to active duty. (Examples include those serving less than 24 months in the Gulf War or Reservists that were federalized by Presidential Act.) Undesirable, bad conduct, and any other type of discharge other than honorable may or may not qualify the individual for veterans benefits, depending upon a determination made by a VA Regional Office. Cases presenting multiple discharges of varying character are also referred for adjudication to a VA Regional Office.

b. Members of Reserve Components and Reserve Officers' Training Corps

(1) Reservists and National Guard members who, at time of death, were entitled to retired pay under Chapter 1223, title 10, United States Code, or would have been entitled, but for being under the age of 60. Specific categories of individuals eligible for retired pay are delineated in section 12731 of Chapter 1223, title 10, United States Code.

(2) Members of reserve components who die while hospitalized or undergoing treatment at the expense of the United States for injury or disease contracted or incurred under honorable conditions while performing active duty for training or inactive duty training, or undergoing such hospitalization or treatment.

(3) Members of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps of the Army, Navy, or Air Force who die under honorable conditions while attending an authorized training camp or on an authorized cruise, while performing authorized travel to or from that camp or cruise, or while hospitalized or undergoing treatment at the expense of the United States for injury or disease contracted or incurred under honorable conditions while engaged in one of those activities.

(4) Members of reserve components who, during a period of active duty for training, were disabled or died from a disease or injury incurred or aggravated in line of duty or, during a period of inactive duty training, were disabled or died from an injury incurred or aggravated in line of duty.

c. Commissioned Officers, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

(1) A Commissioned Officer of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (formerly titled the Coast and Geodetic Survey and the Environmental Science Services Administration) with full-time duty on or after July 29, 1945.

(2) A Commissioned Officer who served before July 29, 1945, and;

(a) Was assigned to an area of immediate military hazard while in time of war, or of a Presidentially declared national emergency as determined by the Secretary of Defense;

(b) Served in the Philippine Islands on December 7, 1941, and continuously in such islands thereafter; or,

(c) Transferred to the Department of the Army or the Department of the Navy under the provisions of the Act of May 22, 1917 (40 Stat. 87; 33 U.S.C. § 855).

d. Public Health Service

(1) A Commissioned Officer of the Regular or Reserve Corps of the Public Health Service who served on full-time duty on or after July 29, 1945. If the service of the particular Public Health Service Officer falls within the meaning of active duty for training, as defined in section 101(22), title 38, United States Code, he or she must have been disabled or died from a disease or injury incurred or aggravated in the line of duty.

(2) A Commissioned Officer of the Regular or Reserve Corps of the Public Health Service who performed full-time duty prior to July 29, 1945:

(a) In time of war;

(b) On detail for duty with the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard; or,

(c) While the Service was part of the military forces of the United States pursuant to Executive Order of the President.

(3) A Commissioned Officer serving on inactive duty training as defined in section 101(23), title 38, United States Code, whose death resulted from an injury incurred or aggravated in the line of duty.

e. World War II Merchant Mariners

(1) United States Merchant Mariners with oceangoing service during the period of armed conflict, December 7, 1941, to December 31, 1946. Prior to the enactment of Public Law 105-368, United States Merchant Mariners with oceangoing service during the period of armed conflict of December 7, 1941, to August 15, 1945, were eligible. With enactment of Public Law 105-368, the service period is extended to December 31, 1946, for those dying on or after November 11, 1998. A DD-214 documenting this service may be obtained by submitting an application to Commandant (G-MVP-6), United States Coast Guard, 2100 2nd Street, SW, Washington, DC 20593. Notwithstanding, the Mariner's death must have occurred after the enactment of Public Law 105-368 and the interment not violate the applicable restrictions while meeting the requirements held therein.

(2) United States Merchant Mariners who served on blockships in support of Operation Mulberry during World War II.

Persons NOT Eligible for a Headstone or Marker

a. Disqualifying Characters of Discharge (A person whose only separation from the Armed Forces was under dishonorable conditions or whose character of service results in a bar to veterans benefits.)

b. Discharge from Draft (A person who was ordered to report to an induction station, but was not actually inducted into military service.)

c. Person Found Guilty of a Capital Crime

d. Subversive Activities

e. Active or Inactive Duty for Training (A person whose only service is active duty for training or inactive duty training in the National Guard or Reserve Component, unless the individual meets the following criteria.)

(1) Reservists and National Guard members who, at time of death, were entitled to retired pay under Chapter 1223, title 10, United States Code, or would have been entitled, but for being under the age of 60. Specific categories of individuals eligible for retired pay are delineated in section 12731 of Chapter 1223, title 10, United States Code.

(2) Members of reserve components who die while hospitalized or undergoing treatment at the expense of the United States for injury or disease contracted or incurred under honorable conditions while performing active duty for training or inactive duty training, or undergoing such hospitalization or treatment.

(3) Members of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps of the Army, Navy, or Air Force who die under honorable conditions while attending an authorized training camp or on an authorized cruise, while performing authorized travel to or from that camp or cruise, or while hospitalized or undergoing treatment at the expense of the United States for injury or disease contracted or incurred under honorable conditions while engaged in one of those activities.

(4) Members of reserve components who, during a period of active duty for training, were disabled or died from a disease or injury incurred or aggravated in line of duty or, during a period of inactive duty training, were disabled or died from an injury incurred or aggravated in line of duty.

f. Other Groups

Members of groups whose service has been determined by the Secretary of the Air Force under the provisions of Public Law 95-202 as not warranting entitlement to benefits administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Ordering a Headstone or Marker

When burial is in a private cemetery, VA Form 40-1330, *Application for Standard Government Headstone or Marker for Installation in a Private or State Veterans' Cemetery*, must be submitted by the next of kin or a representative, such as funeral director, cemetery official or veterans counselor, along with a copy of the veteran's military discharge documents, to request a Government-provided headstone or marker.

Setting Government Headstones and Markers

Arrangements for setting a Government-furnished headstone or marker in a private cemetery are the applicant's responsibility and all placement costs are at private expense.

Headstones and Markers Inscriptions

Government-furnished headstones and markers must be inscribed with the name of the deceased, branch of service, and the year of birth and death, in this order. Memorial markers must also include "In Memory Of" at the top. If requested, and space is available, the inscription may also contain any or all of the following: veteran's rank, war service, military decorations, awards, and month and day of birth and death. All of these items must be inscribed in English.

If desired, headstones and markers may also include an approved emblem of belief. You will find a listing of the approved Emblems of Belief Available for Placement on Headstones and Markers at <http://www.cem.va.gov/hmemb.htm>.

Additional personalized inscriptions such as terms of endearment ("beloved brother and son"; "loving wife and mother", etc.), nicknames ("Poppy", "Funny Face", etc.), affiliation with military organizations or veterans groups, etc., may be added at the bottom of the headstone or marker with the VA's approval, if space is available and the requested inscription is respectful and in good taste.

Civilian titles such as Doctor or Reverend, or any other additions to the proper name are not permitted on the mandatory name line of the headstone or marker, but may be added as part of the additional inscription at the bottom of the marker.

Additional inscriptions may be in any language so long as they are inscribed using characters of the Latin alphabet (A, B, C, . . . 1, 2, 3 . .etc.). Both letters and numbers may be used, and where appropriate, accent marks such as the Tilde, Ampersand, Parenthesis, Colon, Hyphen, etc., may also be used.

If requesting an additional inscription in any language other than English, the request must include the proper English language translation of the inscription.

No graphics (logos, symbols, etc.) are permitted on Government-furnished headstones and markers other than the approved emblems of belief, the Civil War Union Shield, the Civil War Confederate Southern Cross of Honor, and the Medal of Honor insignias.

Documentation must be provided with VA Form 40-1330, *Application for Standard Government Headstone or Marker for Installation in a Private or State Veterans' Cemetery*, when requesting military awards in the inscription.

A veteran's spouse or other non-veteran dependent buried in a private cemetery is not eligible for a Government-furnished headstone or marker. However, if requested on the application, space may be reserved below the veteran's inscription so that the non-veteran's information can be inscribed later by private arrangement at private expense. Or, if requested on the application, the non-veteran dependent's name and date of birth can be included at Government expense and the date of death may be added later at private expense.

Emblems of Belief for Placement on Government Headstones and Markers:

- CHRISTIAN CROSS
- BUDDHIST (Wheel of Righteousness)
- HEBREW (Star of David)
- PRESBYTERIAN CROSS
- RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CROSS
- LUTHERAN CROSS
- UNITARIAN CHURCH (Flaming Chalice)
- UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
- AARONIC ORDER CHURCH
- MORMON (Angel Moroni)
- NATIVE AMERICAN CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA
- SERBIAN ORTHODOX
- GREEK CROSS
- BAHAI (9 Pointed Star)
- ATHEIST
- MUSLIM (Crescent and Star)
- HINDU
- KONKO-KYO FAITH

- COMMUNITY OF CHRIST
- SUFISM REORIENTED
- TENRIKYO CHURCH
- SEICHO-NO-IE
- CHURCH OF WORLD MESSIANITY (Izunome)
- UNITED CHURCH OF RELIGIOUS SCIENCE
- CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
- UNITED MORAVIAN CHURCH
- ECKANKAR
- CHRISTIAN CHURCH
- CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE
- UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
- CHRISTIAN SCIENTIST (Cross & Crown)
- MUSLIM (Islamic 5 Pointed Star)

For more details concerning this benefit visit: <http://www.cem.va.gov/newlawinst.htm> or call your nearest Veterans Administration office.

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.

This year's tournament is scheduled for September 9, 2004. Jim Millinger will be publishing additional information on this in the next issue of the Swamp Fox.

LETTER FROM POST MEMBER HARRY SCOTT

I would like to share with our membership a letter received from one of our members who resides in Florida.

“Members,

You people have one of the Best Posts in the nation. All of you should really be proud of the post.

I went to a couple posts here in Florida as well as the K. W. V.A. (Korean War Veterans Association) and all they wanted to do was dress up in their uniforms and fuss all the time.

I had planned to join something here in Florida but after seeing and hearing all the membership I decided to remain a member of 4667.

You people really do a lot of good with your Bingo proceeds. Thanks to all the workers. Again you have a post to really be proud of. Yours in Comradeship – Harry J. Scott”

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.

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
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

MARCH 2004