

POST 10804 NORTH MYRTLE BEACH  
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## **NEWSLETTER – November 2017**

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:** William Russell Jr., Bryson Sellers, Robert H. Galloway and Paul DeHart. Thank you Paul for attending your 1<sup>st</sup> Post 10804 meeting. We hope to see more of you and our other new members at upcoming Post events and the November meeting.

### **COMMANDERS CALL:**

Last month I asked for a few volunteers to help an old veteran demolish and haul away a rotten deck attached to his home. And five outstanding members answered the call without hesitation. I salute Walt Duncan, Bob Wasden, Jim Stuporitz, Dan Hildreth, and Don Whittaker for their service to that veteran and our Post. This is what the VFW is all about.

November is a busy month for us and we hope you will join us. We'll be judging our student entries for Patriots Pen, Voice of Democracy and the Teacher of the Year competition. "The Legends" show is on Sunday evening, the 5<sup>th</sup>, Pasta Night is on the 6<sup>th</sup>, and then we'll sponsor the Power of Three luncheon on Friday, Nov 10<sup>th</sup>. Our Veterans Day service at the NMB Sports Complex will be followed by our traditional celebration with dogs and burgers at the Post on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Sunday Brunch on the 12<sup>th</sup>.. and our meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Please join us for these and other functions so we can better serve our veterans and our community. Take a look at our website and download the monthly calendar at [www.vfwpost10804.org](http://www.vfwpost10804.org).

**SOCIAL SECURITY:** For those of us that receive any kind of Social Security benefits payment. You will soon be getting a 2% increase in SS payments. That might not seem like much, but it is the largest increase in payment since 2002. Just don't spend it all at a trip to a fast-food restaurant.

**BEING A VFW MEMBER:** *OK, so you have joined your local Post (hopefully Post 10804) and you've been to a couple of meetings and participated in a couple of events and now you're thinking you want to get more involved.*

Every Post has its own agenda that it functions by. Every Post does some sort of veteran and/or community support activities. At your Post, if you want to get involved there are many avenues you can take to move up the leadership ladder.

*Keep in mind that every position you hold (elected or appointed) is a training opportunity for you to learn by as you move up within the Post.*

...Posts have a variety of Committee's to which you could join.

...Posts have a variety of Commander appointed positions such as Adjutant (usually occupied by someone who has a history with the Post), Judge Advocate, Surgeon (you don't need any medical qualifications), Officer of the Day, Service Officer. Express your interest in one of these positions. It's a good way to get started in Post leadership.

...Posts have elected positions that require a majority vote of members present at the APRIL meeting. These positions are Trustee, Chaplain, Quartermaster, Junior Vice-Commander, Senior Vice-Commander and finally Commander (elected in reverse order).

ALL elected positions, except for Trustees, are for a one-year term.

*THERE IS A DIFFERENCE between being elected at the Post level, District level, Department (state) level and National level.* At Post level, it is possible to be a relatively new member, run for Commander and win without ever holding other positions. This can also possibly happen even at the District level. It is also possible for you to stay at the same position (elected or appointed) for multiple years if you so choose.

BUT....You will *never* see it happen at the Department or National Level. At these, you "go through the chairs" and wait your turn to move up. After holding other elected or appointed positions, once you run for Junior-Vice Commander and WIN, the next year you are pretty much automatically elected to Senior-Vice Commander and the next year you are elected Commander. Each of these chairs are 1 year terms.

The reason for 1 year up and then out, is for you to experience new responsibility and garner new training. It also allows for new members, or older members now wanting to get involved the opportunity to serve and learn from Post through the National level.

**ARE YOU READY to step-up???????**

**THIS NEWSLETTER.....**Is YOUR newsletter. If you have something that you want in the newsletter that could be of a benefit to our veterans? All you have to do is send it to me. I, and Commander Camera will review your submission to determine its benefits to our veteran readers.

**DID YOU KNOW.....**That slightly over 3 million men and women served 'IN' Vietnam. That, as of today, there is slightly over 800,000 of us left and our average age is '71'.

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION....** There is currently a bill proposed in the U.S. Senate (#833) called the Service Members and Veterans Empowerment and Support Act. It is for those military members who have suffered/claimed to have suffered sexual trauma while in the military (1% men, 20% women). It has the support of the VA and the DAV. It is designed to work as a PTSD type condition being there is little or no documentation that the service member would have showing this actually happened to them.

If this is of interest to you, write your US Senator.

**HAVE YOU FILED A VA CLAIM APPEAL?** Under the old way of the VA doing business, after you filed your appeal, all you could do is sit back and wait. That wait could take five (5) years.

AS OF August 23, 2017, YOU NOW HAVE more avenues to pursue your appeal thanks to the Veterans Appeals Improvement and Modernization Act (The Law P.L. 115-55).

Here are your three (3) new options;

...Seek a higher-level review by a Regional Office on the same evidence presented to the original claims processor.

...File a supplemental claim with a Regional Office that would include the opportunity to submit additional evidence.

...Opt for an expedited consideration of their appeal directly to the Board of Veterans Appeals.

You can get help with this through your local VA Service Office.

**DID YOU KNOW...**The President has signed the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) War Memorial Act into law.

For all of you veterans who have served fighting the war on terrorism for the last 16 years, this means the Global War on Terrorism Memorial Foundation can immediately start looking for a memorial site. Can start fundraising for the memorial and can institute a design contest to determine what the memorial will look like.

**NOTE:** Under current memorial laws, Congress previously had to wait 10 years after the official end of a war before offering consideration for a war memorial in Washington, DC.

For more information, or to donate, go to: [www.gwotmemorialfoundation.org](http://www.gwotmemorialfoundation.org)

**YOUR POST.....FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW...**recently played host to a group of disabled veterans and their sponsors. These veterans use bicycle riding (and horse-back riding and kayaking) as part of their therapy as they struggle through the problems associated with physical and mental rehabilitation and coping with everyday life. Many of their bicycles are modified to accommodate each rider's physical or mental capabilities and limitations (this includes veterans with missing limbs). Their organization is called The Warrior Ride.

Over 70 riders (men and women) and their sponsors arrived at the Post and were greeted by Post members, spouses and friends of the Post. All the guests were treated to a free dinner and plenty of time to tell their stories and socialize and interact with fellow veterans. A good time was had by all.

The Warrior Ride organization can be found at: [www.thewarriorride.org](http://www.thewarriorride.org), or 901-278-4612.



Warrior Riders arriving to a walk of honor provided by the Post



Some of the 100+ people who attend The Warrior Ride dinner at the Post

DON'T FORGET to check the Post monthly calendar and come out and enjoy many of the meals and activities and events planned for YOU!!

VETERAN'S DAY, NOVEMBER 11<sup>th</sup>.....YOUR Post, in-conjunction-with, American Legion Post 186 will be holding a Veteran's Day ceremony at the Veterans Memorial in North Myrtle Beach Park starting at 11AM. Come join us!!! A \$6.00 lunch at the Post starts at 1PM..

Friday night, November 17<sup>th</sup>'s dinner will have BUDDY LADD doing his DJ thing. C'mon out, enjoy an inexpensive dinner (ROAST BEEF) and keep him company. Dinner starts at 6PM. Please call the Post NLT 3PM on Thursday, 16 November to make your reservation.

ON DECEMBER 7<sup>th</sup>...The Aircraft Carrier Yorktown will hold its annual Pearl Harbor Memorial Reef Laying Ceremony. It is open to the public.

**REMEMBER EVERYONE.....THIS IS YOUR POST, IT CAN'T SURVIVE WITHOUT YOU!!!!**

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