



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Post 10804

111 Hwy 57 North

Little River, S.C. 29566

843-399-0877

www.vfwpost10804.org

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NEWSLETTER: - APRIL 2019

HAVING PROBLEMS? NEED TO TALK TO SOMEONE?...The “VETERANS CRISIS LINE” is open 24/7. Just call 1-800-273-8255 and press 1. It takes an average of 8 seconds for your call to be answered. You are NOT alone!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS – Michael Benner, Ricky Blevins and Richard Caruso. Hope to see you at YOUR post sometime soon.

COMMANDER’S CALL:

It’s getting near the end of my tour of duty as Post Commander and I look forward to supporting current Senior Vice Commander, Kevin Rorer, as he will be elected our next Post Commander at the April 13th post meeting. I have no doubt that our Post will continue to be actively involved in helping fellow veterans in our local community under Kevin’s leadership.

CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS. Our post’s House Committee manages our facility and oversees food and beverage programs in the Canteen. We need comrades who have ideas on how to make our Post the place to bring family and friends and for all of us to expect a good meal at a reasonable price. We need comrades with initiative and ideas that will increase our business and service to our membership. Will you step up and help your Post? Contact Kevin Rorer before or at our April meeting to let him know you’d like to be nominated for the House Committee. We need you.

THANKS to all who participated in the St Patrick’s Day parade! We had a record number of veterans marching and every one of us really enjoyed the warm reception by

the crowds. Next year, we'll need a large Post 10804 banner to carry in front of us and we'll also need to decorate our vehicles so the citizens know who we are.

MEMBERSHIP! We've got some work to do in order to reach our membership goals in order for the Post to be recognized once again as an All State Post. Take a look at pages 38 through 42 in the April issue of VFW Magazine and see how others are finding success in recruiting new members. Most people might ask, "What's in it for me?" and the VFW Fact Sheet is the best source of info about what we do for vets. Let's all get out and find some new members for our great organization. I'll send out that VFW Fact sheet in a separate attachment and we'll post a copy in the Canteen.

*Nick Camera
Post 10804 Commander*

IT'S ELECTION TIME – Are you ready to step up to the plate and take your position of responsibility within YOUR Post. Any member, in good standing, can be elected or appointed to a position of responsibility! All you have to do is throw your name into the hat!

A person can be nominated for an elected position clear on up to the time they call for a vote on that position.

PLEASE NOTE – That if you are going to miss the meeting and want to be nominated for a position, you must submit a letter or email to the Adjutant (Frank Fogner) stating you want to be nominated/considered for a particular elected position. NO ONE can nominate another who is absent without that letter from the nominee.

ON A SIMILAR NOTE....The District 7 Convention and elections are on April 27th, 10AM at Georgetown. If you are interested in running for a District office? Here is your chance! Even if not interested in the politics, come see what YOUR District is all about. \$5.00 cookout lunch after the meeting.

H.R. 1381 Burn Pit Registry – The House recently passed this bill and patted themselves on the back for doing something for veterans. Here's what the Bill says/does. You decide if they helped you. I read it, here's what it says.

H.R. 1381 Expands and improves the data available for studies related to burn pits. It helps researchers determine the full range of diseases and negative health outcomes that can result from exposure to burn pits. It directs the Secretary of the VA to take the actions necessary to ensure that certain individuals may update their Burn Pit Registry (BPR) with a registered individuals cause of death and for other purposes (other purposes were not defined).

Within 180 days of passage of this Bill, the Secretary of the VA shall take the actions necessary to ensure the Burn Pit Registry may be updated.

Translation – If a veteran had registered on the BPR. His/her designated surviving heirs can contact the registry to list the veteran's cause of death on the registry.

The registry has been closed out, so no one else can get on the list.

NOTE: *This Burn Pit Register ONLY covers those who participated in the initial stages and locations of the Gulf War to present.*

PTSD and YOU, the Family Member – Don't know if a veteran member of your family, recently returned from a deployment, has Post Traumatic Stress Disorder? Here's a couple of things family members can key on if these items persist for several months after return home: Is the military member/veteran –

- ...Reliving or re-experiencing an event
- ...Avoiding things that remind them of trauma
- ...Feeling more negative about the world
- ...Constantly being on guard

Family (immediate or extended) must **AVOID** using one primary kind of help. That is, to stay clear of enabling their loved ones avoidance behavior (EX: the veteran continually avoids going out to situations where he/she may encounter crowds of people).

PTSD research says – **DON'T LET** the veteran change the family structure. **GENTLY** point out to the veteran how his/her behavior is effecting the family.

THERE IS PLENTY OF HELP OUT THERE. A simple first step is to get your veteran to go to, or for you to take the veteran to a VA PTSD counselor (or even a doctor to start with).



Commander Camera (white shirt center-left) leads the ensemble of "Murder at the Mardi-Gras" murder mystery dinner held at YOUR Post On March 3rd. YOUR Post thespians performed in front of a sell-out crowd of hearty party-goers. **SPECIAL THANKS** to all who made this event the success that it was. **SPECIAL THANKS** to Cathey Farley for another great script!!

P.S. Every time we tried to get a picture of Lawyer Dan Farley, he was

off chasing ambulances!

MEMBERSHIPAs of February, YOUR Post is at 93.5% membership. There are currently 33 yearly dues members who are over 1 year past due on renewing. There are 10 more currently due, so far, for this year. Want to call some of these people and try to get them to renew? Call Kevin Rorer and he will provide you with some names and phone numbers.

VETERANS WELCOME HOME AND RESOURCE CENTER...Director Ron Wilson reported the center helped 84 veterans with their needs in February and spent \$4,300 in doing so.

VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER OF FLORENCE...Director C.B. Anderson reported the center is doing good things for veterans and has helped a couple of veterans with serious issues.

POST ELECTION NOMINATIONS...So far the following individuals have stepped up to say they want to be considered for the following offices:

Commander – Kevin Rorer

Sr. Vice-Commander – Margo Sheridan

Jr. Vice-Commander – Mike Mallory

Chaplain – Bob Wasden

Trustee (3 year) – Nick Camera and Bill Mincher

It's not too late for you. All you have to do is show up for the April 13th meeting and throw-your-hat-in-the-ring when the position you are interested in is announced. Can't make the meeting? Send a letter or email to the Adjutant at the post address stating what position you want to be nominated for. You can only be nominated for the position you identify in your letter. **Unless** you say in your nomination consideration that you will accept any position nominated for.

VFW Mission Goals...Every year YOUR VFW puts out a set of mission goals that are the heart-and-soul of what YOUR VFW is all about. You find these goals at VFW.org. The good thing is that you, the individual member, can provide inputs as to what these goals will be. Look at what's already there and if you have any ideas that would be a benefit to all/most VFW members or their families. YOU can submit a recommendation for a goal/s that will be reviewed by a committee to determine its worthiness to VFW members. All you have to do is go to VFW.org and find 'contact us' and send your idea. You will get a response from VFW HQ.

St. Patrick's Day Parade....Your post joined other veteran organizations and participated in the parade in N. Myrtle Beach. Unfortunately; no one took any pictures (I was in W.V.). Even though YOUR post had a 'fair' turn-out. It could have been a lot better if more of you had participated.

There are many things YOUR post is involved in. Please check the monthly calendar or read the commander's emails to see what YOUR post is doing in the community and BE a part of it.

VIETNAM VETERANS....Friday, March 29th was Vietnam Veterans Day. If you missed the post activities in regards to this recognition day? You missed another of the many productive things YOUR post does to support its membership. Hope you didn't miss the free sandwiches offered by Mission BBQ that day. They do a lot to support YOUR post.

VA and COMMUNITY CARE INITIATIVES....The VA is implementing the newer version of the community care program which is called the VA Mission Act of 2018. Most of this new program is supposed to be implemented by June of this year. Some of the issues associated with the new program are:

- To continue to have access to community care under current programs and then transition to the new program when regulations are final and published
- To follow an improved process to receive community care under the new program, with better access to community providers and improvements to customer service, such as more streamlined eligibility requirements
- A new benefit that provides eligible Veterans with access to urgent, non-emergency care for non-life-threatening conditions in VA's network of community providers
- Improved care coordination as VA transitions to a single information technology system that better links together VA and community providers
- Your provider to receive timely payments for bills as VA transitions to better claims processing systems

DON'T FORGET THE APRIL 13th ELECTION MEETING STARTING AT 11AM.

Bill La Monte
Writer/Editor