



111 Hwy 57 North
Little River, S.C. 29566
843-399-0877
www.vfwpost10804.org
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NEWSLETTER - JULY 2019

In case you are not aware. YOU are now a member of an ALL STATE POST!!

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!

www.womenshealth.va.gov

Last month you were introduced to YOUR new Post Commander. This month you are going to get to know the Auxiliary's new President - **DENNIS BENSON**

Hello everyone, my name is Dennis W. Benson, I am your newly elected Auxiliary President for the incoming year. I was asked to provide a short bio:
I was born in the Great Commonwealth of Virginia (Arlington). I may not be from South Carolina but I'm still a Southerner. (and was raised that way).
I became an Auxiliary member through my Father, who served in WWII in the Navy, from 1943-1947. My Father served on two Destroyer Escorts' during the war. His first was the USS Holton, DE-703, where he served an entire year on the ship, without touching land, he hunted U-Boats in the North Atlantic. His second tour of duty was on the USS Fryberger, DE-705, in the South Pacific. Escorting the Marines to Okinawa, Lingagen Gulf as well as other Japanese islands. My family is proud that both of my parents are interred at Arlington National Cemetery. Most of you, that are retired military, would know of the company that I worked for 11 years,

named SATO Travel. I worked in the Finance Department at SATO's Headquarters from 1990 to 2001.

Since moving to South Carolina in 2002, I have worked at Crown Park Golf Course (8yrs), the TSA (1yr) and have been at the Home Depot for the past 14 years. (And please don't ask me for a discount, employees don't get them. (NO WE DON'T))

I live in the beautiful countryside of Loris with my Beautiful wife Julie, as well as my two sons, Stone and Zach. When I first joined the VFW I was a member of the Men's Auxiliary. I served as President for the last three years of the Men's Auxiliary's existence. For the last two years with the Auxiliary, I have served as Jr. Vice President and Sr. Vice President.

In closing, I would like to say that I never served in the military. My Father once pulled me to the side one day, and told me that I never needed to join the military because he had seen enough and served enough for his family and children. That is why I serve as an Auxiliary member, to Honor my Father and all of you that have served our great nation the United States. Throughout my tenure as President of the Auxiliary, we will provide assistance to you... Veterans of Foreign Wars. As a quote from our former president, Theodore Roosevelt, on inspiration as well as compassion:

"Believe you can, and you're halfway there."

God bless you
God bless the United States of America
And thank you for your service.

Dennis W. Benson
VFW 10804 Auxiliary President

Post 10804 Auxiliary Officers for 2019-2020 are:

President - Dennis W. Benson	Sr. Vice - Debbie Hartleroad
Jr. Vice - Ramona Seals	Treasurer - Jacqui Williams
Secretary - Helen C. Walker	Chaplin - Vicki Stahl
Conductress - May Ganzel	Guard - Stone Benson
Historian - Jacqui Williams	Patriotic Instructor - Savannah Seals
Trustee 1 Dana Fogner	Trustee 2 Charlene Broadhurst
Trustee 3 Alissa Rorer (also Immediate Past President)	



Dennis, 3rd from left, with the 2019-2020 Post Auxiliary leadership

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS – Lawrence Walsh, Wayne Southworth, Patrick Cane, Thomas E. Brown and Otto Vance. WELCOME! Congratulations Otto on attending your first meeting and receiving your new member packet.

COMMANDERS CALL: July is upon us and we have two events occurring soon. July 4th we have music and karaoke with Lisa Snow from 4-7pm. Menu is available for \$6. On July 12th is our annual Christmas in July with Roast Turkey Dinner and quarter auction to be served at 6pm for \$15. Get your tickets from Allen Rundall or bartenders.

For those who haven't heard we have revamped our lunch menu so please join us Monday - Friday for lunch from 12-2pm.

Thank you Bob O'Shea for spray washing the sidewalk and front of the Post.
Commander Kevin Rorer

- **Every one of you under the VA Healthcare Program**Should have received an information packet from the VA on the new "MISSION ACT". This is how you can access the civilian medical care system if you can't get to a VA facility. If you have not received anything yet? Contact your VA care facility, or go to VA.gov and look for "Mission Act".

Veterans Welcome Home and resource Center – Reported that they responded to the needs of 78 veterans in May. They helped with job placement, food, bill paying and housing of one veteran. They provided \$1,335 in financial assistance. They volunteered 326 hours and drove 57 miles in support of that volunteering. They also completed a "Book of Activities" that has been sent to VFW National for award consideration.

DID YOU KNOW....That all 172 VA Health Care Facilities now have "**SAME DAY**" mental health treatment. Just show up or call in advance and you WILL be seen by a mental health care specialist.

Funeral Planning....Most of us are getting up in years and it might be time to plan for that final transition. You can make things a lot easier on your surviving spouse/family IF you have this very important item taken care of in advance. All you need to do is go to a Funeral Parlor/Mortuary of your choice and sit down and plan out that final transition. Do you want to be buried or cremated? Do you want your remains to be interred locally, back home or around family, or do you want to be interred (buried or cremated) in a National/State Cemetery or Arlington. Don't leave a 'burial expense'. Pre-pay for your service. Most Funeral Parlors have a payment plan. If you're being buried out of state. They can get you there (at additional cost, if not part of original plan).

NOTE: Keep in mind that your interment at Arlington or a National Cemetery must be coordinated with a funeral parlor. Your survivors can't show up at the gate and say they want you buried there. This takes time and must be pre-coordinated.



Advocacy

The VFW is one of the most respected voices in [Washington](#), D.C., and within local governments across America. We advocate for justice for our nation's [veterans](#), service members and [military](#) families on an array of issues and continue to be the voice for veterans everywhere. We regularly testify before Congress, meet with elected officials and rally our national network of VFW members and patriotic supporters to ensure our lawmakers put [veterans](#) first. When those who've served their country and those that [support](#) them stand together, we can not be ignored.



Legislative Priorities

We don't wait to hear how legislation will affect veterans, service members and their families; we help shape it from the beginning. We actively lobby Congress and the administration on current veterans' issues and needs.



National Security & Foreign Affairs

We fought in uniform to keep our country safe. Today, we continue that fight through our National Security and Foreign Affairs (NS&FA) program. Simply put, NS&FA works to maintain the integrity of our great nation.



Women Veterans

Ensuring women veterans receive benefits and services that honor their brave military service is one of the VFW's top priorities. With the steady increase of women wearing our nation's uniform, it has never been more important to ensure women veterans have a VA that is ready and able to care for them.



Grassroots Efforts

The VFW's Action Corps is the VFW's grassroots lobbying effort. Located in communities across the globe, this group work to inform and educate veterans and service members on the initiatives and policies that affect them and take the voice of veterans to local, state and national lawmakers.



VA Health Care Watch

We consistently monitor veterans' experiences with the VA health care system and deliver veterans' feedback directly to VA officials in order to implement new programs and methods to ensure America's veterans receive the top quality care they deserve.

To sign up as a new veterans' advocate, visit: <http://capwiz.com/vfw/mlm/signup.htm>

As always, the VFW wants to hear your advocacy stories. To share your stories or photos with us, simply email them directly to vfwac@vfw.org.

DON'T FORGET....To check out the July Calendar. There's lots of things happening at YOUR post. Come join in the activities and bring the spouse, a friend, a potential new member (always a good idea). Other than the monthly business meeting (2nd Saturday), most activities are open for you to bring someone along!

DID YOU KNOW....That in 2017, there were 77,000 members who did NOT renew their annual membership. We know the reason many did not, but many were just because "They Forgot". For all you annual members out there. End the forgetfulness involved with yearly payments!! Become a LIFE MEMBER!!!! You can even do it on the installment plan. Here's how it works..

AGE	One Time Payment	Installment Plan Initial Payment	11
31-40	\$425.00	\$45	
31-40	\$38.64		
41-50	\$410.00	\$45	
41-50	\$37.27		
51-60	\$375.00	\$45	
51-60	\$34.09		
61-70	\$335.00	\$45	
61-70	\$30.45		
61-70	\$290.00	\$45	
61-70	\$26.36		
71-80	\$225.00	\$45	
71-80	\$20.45		
81 & Over	\$170.00	\$45	
81 & Over	\$15.45		

CONTACT YOUR POST To change your Membership to a LIFE MEMBERSHIP!

**Bill La Monte
Post 10804 Newsletter
252-308-3507 or 4william6@gmail.com**