



Blue Hen VFW 6483
 Newsletter
 January 2019



VFW Officers 2018-2019

Commander – Steve Hall
 Sr Vice Cdr – Chris Lucas
 Jr Vice Cdr - Larry Cushman
 Quartermaster – Robyn Hall
 Chaplain – Anthony Kieswetter
 Post Svc Officer – Ed Moczulski

MOC Shavetails 2018-2019

Seam Squirrel – Ed Moczulski
 Blanket Bum – Rick Ryder
 Hide Gimlet – Rob McLeod
 CCDB – Steve Lorentz
 Sky Pilot— Mark Stayton
 Hospital Chair – Ed Moczulski

Post Meetings:

Auxiliary—1st Monday of month
 BOD— 1st Tuesday of month
 VFW— 2nd Tuesday of month

Post Home Address:

177 Veterans Circle
 Milford, DE 19963
 (302) 422-4412

MOC Auxiliary Officers 2018-2019

President - Violet Simmons
 Sr Vice President - Colleen Thompson
 Jr Vice President - Tina Lucas
 Secretary - Nadja McKay
 Treasurer - Faye Caldwell
 Chaplain - Julia Tingle

Auxiliary Officers 2018-2019

President – Jennie Washington Ratliff
 Sr Vice Pres – Violet Simmons
 Jr Vice Pres – Nancy Cushman
 Treasurer – Ruth Baker
 Secretary – Tina Lucas
 Chaplain – Julia Tingle
 Conductor – George Czerny

From the Commander

The New Year is upon us right now. A new opportunity to continue the good works we have started. This is also the time to look forward to what we are to accomplish in the future.

What do I see as our vision in this year?

First off, we need to take care of our people. The charters in our post that we are supposed to live by says **we WILL put aside petty jealousies and work together for the greater good** and be able to make decisions that are positive for the post itself. Our people are what makes this place great. We have lost members in the post due to being called home from this life; we will always remember them. We will remember to **take care of their families just as we promise we will in our charter!** The people of our post and the surrounding community should always be our first priority.

We need to focus on the short term instead of the long, at least for the time being. Let's take a look at our programs and make sure they are on track, as well as look into a way to keep and make them more efficient; Buddy Poppy, Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, recruiting, etc. These programs should never be left on the shoulders of just one person.

Along with these programs, we need to look at our post building itself. **TAKE PRIDE IN WHAT YOU HAVE!** I am sorry to announce that a new building is not a near future project. That is a five to ten year down the road project.

So look at the walls in the hall and let's add a fresh coat of paint. We need ceiling tiles replaced or

refurbished throughout the building. (The ceiling tiles in the canteen have been approved to be replaced for almost a year now with no movement to purchase.) Look in the poolroom, the hall and the sunroom - let's make a move to refurbish, paint to make these nice again and replace water damaged floor tiles in the sunroom. Patch a leak or two, replace shingles if need be. Get into the attic and take out what is not necessary – our retention guidelines are very clear.



Update information on the walls for everyone to see. I am pretty sure the last time the Cooties did something great was not 2012, but that is what we have on display. The Past Commanders' plaque has been defaced and needs to be updated. We could add more photos on the walls with events from Desert Storm, OEF & OIF accomplishments – we should show our Veterans' accomplishments to remind us of where we have come from, who we are NOW!

The charge, challenge, command is to improve who we are. This starts now and from the top down. Starting with myself, I willingly took an office of Commander and WILL do it to the best of my ability and keep improving as long as you all have with me in that seat. My line officers voluntarily took their office and stated in their oaths that they will execute the duties expected of them. They WILL from now on take that challenge to heart, AND I expect everyone in this post to hold the whole line accountable to their office. Also, ALL members will hold each other accountable to the actions of the post and fellow members.

A challenge to ALL members. When you are at the post or think of something, instead of saying "someone should do..." DO IT! Ask people around you if it is a good idea, if they have something to add to it, would they be willing to be involved, and think of ways to execute the idea! Let nothing hold you back! Even if you think of the idea and cannot take charge of it approach others or myself and let's find a way to get it done. The biggest foot stomp here is, JUST BECAUSE YOU THINK OF SOMETHING WE CAN DO, DOES NOT MEAN YOU HAVE TO BE IN CHARGE OF THE EVENT OR PROCESS!

Today I offer a dare to the membership. That is right I SAID I DARE YOU! This one needs to be focused towards the men than the women. Milford does have a homeless population that we see all the time. With the winter months and the cold coming, offer to shake their hand and be a little sympatric to their situation. Ask them if they are a veteran, and even if they are not, offer to bring them to the post for a warm cup of coffee and give them a little time to warm up before they have to face a cold faced world.

Always remember the veteran and hope or pray that today is the first day that 22 veterans do not have to take their lives and see what tomorrow holds for them.

Thank you and I hope this is a paper of encouragement and you take it to heart.

Sincerely,

Steve Hall
Commander Blue Hen Post 6483
(C) 501-297-2547

Auxiliary

Praying everyone one had a **very Merry Christmas** and a **safe and joyous holiday season** spent with their families.

A **huge shout out to the VFW and our auxiliary, as well as the American Legion post #3**, for their generosity in donations to provide the two children living at the Home of the Brave II a beautiful Christmas! We had a Santa, John Wilkerson, (**thank you tons, John**), our own elf on the shelf and aux senior vice., Violet, and myself will be delivering the gifts on Christmas Eve! Others have been invited to attend should they wish! Thank you Violet so much for helping me wrap all the gifts! Will update later on how it went!

Furthermore, the auxiliary doesn't have any events pending as of now. We need BOD, which occurs the second tuesday, approval for any events we plan, they will be pinned up where events normally are (where the etockings hung).

Yours in Service,

Jennie Washington Ratliff
Auxiliary President



VFW AUXILIARY
UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

Buddy Poppy Program - - making plans for Memorial Day weekend!

© Peace Flash®

The Story of the Poppy

The poppy flower only grows in the absence of other flowers and only in ground that has been churned. In perhaps the best known poem of World War I, when Dr. John McCrae observed poppies growing between the crosses on the soldiers' graves, it inspired him to write the poem *In Flanders Fields*. The poppy has since become known as "The Flower of Remembrance" and is worn in memory of our veterans.

I'm sharing this poppy in remembrance of the veterans as well as the active service members and wishing you a beautiful Memorial Day weekend.

Honor Guard

Openings are available for anyone who wants to participate in the Post Honor Guard. We would really like to see some of the new Comrades and Auxiliary members step up to the plate, if you are interested. There are no out of pocket expenses for the uniforms; funding is designated in the budget. Please contact me for more information.

Respectfully, Ed Moczulski



Chaplain's Corner

Please keep the Post chaplain informed of any members, be they post, auxiliary or other, who may be ill or have any other issues what we could support and help if needed. The Relief Fund is established for the purpose of aiding our Post members. Lets keep the line of communication open – please.

Sincerely,



Anthony Kieswetter
Post Chaplain

MILITARY ORDER of the COOTIES (MOC) - GRAND COMMANDER:

I remember many years ago when I first started to receive the Post newsletters and I would see the section that talked about the cooties. I remember reading it and not understanding what they talking about. Then as future newsletters would come, I would just skip the part about the Cooties because I didn't understand or even know what it was all about. Since then I have held many positions in the MOC PT4 and currently hold the office of Grand Commander of the State of Delaware. The major items to note here are the Cooties are "The Honor Degree of the VFW" and our favorite slogan is "Keep them Smiling in Beds of White". We visit veterans in hospitals, nursing homes, rehabilitation centers and at their homes to let them know they are not forgotten.

Therefore, I want to just start in the beginning by saying I am available to answer any questions about what the Cooties are and do. If you are a VFW member or Auxiliary member, in good standing, consider joining our mission to honor our comrades. It may be easier to just provide a story of the Cootie History. So, enclosed is a history of the cooties from the LOTCS.ORG web site. Please feel free to go to this web site to get much more information about the Cooties.

L.O.T.C.S.

Chuck Werner
Grand Commander of Delaware

MOC Pup Tent 4

HEY THERE COOTIES:

We have LOTS to go over at our first **Scratch** of the New Year on **Sunday, January 13 at 1413!** Monthly audits to be reviewed, quarterly audit due to the Grand and Supreme and planning for a busy 2019 visiting our Brothers and Sisters out there in the community – nursing homes, senior centers, Elsmere VA hospital and the state's Veterans Home here in Milford! Come one, come all you worthy bums!!

L.O.T.C.S. Steve Lorentz CCDB



January 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 New Years Day	2	3	4 Hall 4- 11pm	5
6	7 Auxiliary 7pm	8 House Committee 7pm	9 Drawing 7pm	10	11	12
13 MOC 1413 MOCA 1400	14	15 Post Mbr 7pm	16 Drawing 7pm	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Vietnam Peace Accord signed 1974	28	29	30	31		

February 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 VJ Day 1945	4 Auxiliary 7pm	5 House Committee 7pm	6 Drawing 7pm	7	8	9
10 MOC 1413 MOCA 1400	11	12 Post Mbr 1900 Patriot's Day (9/11)	13 Drawing 7pm	14 Valentine's Day	15 USS Maine sunk 1898	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 POW/MIA Recognition Day	23
24	25	26	27	28 Operation Desert Storm 1991		

Notes: