



Department of South Carolina *SENTINEL*



An official publication of the Department of South Carolina Veterans of Foreign Wars

FALL – 2020

And August School of Instruction & Awards

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!

HOT!! – The FCC has approved a new, 3 digit (988) crisis line (acts in the same principal as 911). It will connect with the National Suicide Prevention Hotline. Communications carriers have 18 months to implement the system. It is NOT operational right now!

VA WOMEN VETERAN HELP LINES...1-855-829-6636 or www.womenshealth.va.gov

[Want to stay current with VA & VFW issues? Go to vfwac@vfw.org and sign-up for “Action CORPS Weekly”.](mailto:vfwac@vfw.org)

[Want to stay current with what is happening within the VFW in S.C.? Just go to VFWSC.org.](http://VFWSC.org)

COMMANDER’S CALL –

Greeting Comrades and Auxiliary,

I hope everyone is doing the best they can to be safe during the current pandemic crises. It has certainly put a damper on our Post, and Department activities but we will prevail and not let it beat us.

I want to thank all who attended the Department School of Instruction at the DoubleTree Hotel in Columbia August 14-15. We had a great turnout with some good comments and I hope everyone took back some valuable information. Many thanks to the Department Chairman who had great presentations. There were many who helped make this event possible so not to miss anyone thank you again for a great weekend. We did unfortunately suffer a Zoom catastrophe when we could not get the session working for the memorial service and for the Comrades SOI. Technology can be a bear and quoting an old adage - sometimes you get the bear and sometimes the bear gets you, which it did in this case. While we learn this new system, please work with us as we stumble through the process. In the end, it will be a great tool for the Department to use.

The weekend started with a Memorial service to honor those Comrades and Auxiliary members we lost last year. We pretty much had a completely new group doing the ceremony and I want to say during the practice it looked sketchy but when the time came, it was done with a confidence and precision. I was very proud to be a part of the ceremony and many thanks to our Department Chaplains Wilton Fowler and Laura “Jo” Sweetsir for a great job.

Congratulations to all who received Department awards. You all did a super job last year and have set the bar high for this year. We were honored to have the Department Patriots Pen and Voice of Democracy winners read their essays and present to them their awards. They did an outstanding job and we are looking forward to this year’s entries.

We are suffering many events being postponed or canceled due to Covid-19 this year. So far, the Darlington event the first weekend in September was canceled. The Commander-in-Chief homecoming in October has been postponed and the Southern Conference scheduled for October has been canceled. So far, our Southern Conference dates are still on for November 18-21, 2021 and the committee is looking for help in many areas. Please contact the Department Secretary/Auxiliary Sr Vice if you would like to volunteer. We are working with the Auxiliary to do a Halloween event 31 October and the Department Surgeon Kirk Douglas is coordinating a Blood Drive at Department Headquarters on November 12th. The goal is to show off what the VFW and Auxiliary does for veterans as well as give back to the community. We will be looking for volunteers to help us with both of these events.

Beth and I had a chance to visit a few of our many great posts in the Department last month and I want to thank all of them for the great hospitality and wonderful food. We very much enjoyed talking to the members and hearing their thoughts on current events and ideas for their posts and Department. We look forward to visiting many more posts and meeting more members in the upcoming months. The staff and I are working on setting up some roundups throughout the state one being in October. This is a way for us to meet with the post staff and members, share ideas and pass along important information.

Lastly, by the time the CofA comes around October 17 take a walk through the headquarters and see the updates we have made. Many thanks to QM Jim Fox, Adj. Betty Hilliard and Secretary Kate Brock for the work they did to make this project come to reality. In addition, many thanks to PSC Rod Burne for the work he did rewiring and consolidating the computer network in the building and the great job he does keeping the grounds in top-notch condition.

Comrades and Auxiliary, I am humbled to be your Commander and look forward to working with President Cathey Farley and all of you to make it a great year.

Ted Tufts
Commander 2020-21

From the State Adjutant, Betty Hilliard

I am here to assist you as much as I can. Please ensure your Post Adjutant has created an account in vfw.org so they can access the All American Dashboard and also Election Reports.

Members can also access these areas when they create a log in and go to My VFW and OMS. They can make changes to their address and email and also request replacement ID Cards.

The National website is a wealth of information as well as vfwsc.org which has information regarding the Department. If you want to log in to the [vfwsc](http://vfwsc.org) website you will go to the members only drop down and log in by entering your membership number and last name. No capital letters are necessary.

Hopefully we will have a good year this year.

Are you happy with your VFW membership?

Are you happy with YOUR Post functions and activities? If not, have you discussed it with someone in YOUR Post, or even the Post Commander?

Do you think your VFW membership helps area veterans and surrounding civilian community?

Have you ever considered some sort of donation to YOUR Post or the VFW in general?

There are several ways you can help YOUR Post financially:

*Consider making a tax-deductible donation to YOUR Post

*Consider funding/partially funding a Post upgrade or repair, OR make an upgrade/change proposal for the Post that you/your family would pay for.

*Consider a donation as part of yours or your spouses will

*If an annual member? Upgrade your status to a "Life Membership" (this provides a small return to YOUR Post every year as long as you are alive).

***If you are a Life Member?** Consider becoming a "**Legacy Life Member**". There are 3 levels of Legacy Life and each level provides annual funding back to Your Post and Department, along with various perks (including a small insurance policy) for you.

##BRONZE: Costs \$400 (can be paid in monthly installments over 1 year), gives back \$6.00 a year to YOUR Post and Department for as long as YOUR Post and Department are active.

##SILVER: Costs \$800, with same installment plan option, Gives back \$12.00 a year to YOUR Post and Department for life of Post and Department.

##GOLD: Costs \$1,200, with same one year installment option, pays \$18.00 a year to YOUR Post and Department for the life of each. PLUS you have a personalized brick that will be permanently placed at VFW HQ in Washington, DC.

LEGACY LIFE members are exactly that. You will never be forgotten by YOUR Post/State VFW as long as they are in existence!

PS: Congratulations to Post 4262 (Gandy-Griffin) for having '16' Legacy Life members.

Speaking of Membership ! – When was the last time YOUR Post actually went out and held a recruitment drive? We know it's a tough sell given today's situation. But, you can still set up an info booth somewhere outside and hand out membership literature, or VFW info without having to come in contact with anyone. This pandemic is going to be around for all of this VFW year (June to June) and if YOU don't get out and do some recruiting for YOUR Post, the post future could be in question!!!



On June 29th State Commander Ted Tufts and District 1 Commander Bill King delivered food and household cleaning items collected by the Department of South Carolina to the Ralph H Johnson VA Medical Center. The food drive was held to help re-supply the hospital's nonperishable food supply, for use by veterans in need. Thanks to all who helped the Department have a successful food drive.

AMERICAN POW PRISONER, RULES OF EXISTANCE, IN VIETNAM POW CAMPS

These are the actual POW rules for the American prisoners of war in Vietnam. I copied them while at the National Prisoner-of-War Museum in Andersonville, GA. Note American captives were all always classified as “criminals” not prisoners-of-war.

You are the blackest criminal that this country has ever seen, but due to lenient, humane policy of Vietnamese people. If you follow regulations, you live in peace.

*Regulation Number One: Criminals must give full and complete answers to questions asked by Vietnamese guard or officer.

*Number Two: Criminals must make no noise in room.

*Number Three: Criminals must keep room clean and neat and must not mark in room so graciously given by Vietnamese people.

*Number Four: Criminals must get up and go to bed at sound of gong.

*Number Five: Criminals must get under beds when imperialist aggressors bomb and strafe our sovereign country.

*Number Six: Criminals must say “Bao cao” when they want to ask anything.

Number Seven: Criminals must go only in area that guard orders when they go outside of room.

*Number Eight: Prisoners must bow to every Vietnamese – guards and people.

*Number Nine: Criminals must not bring anything in room from outside.

*Number Ten: Criminals must not communicate with or look at other criminals in other room or outside.

Department By-Laws – Are they a secret? Should I, as a member of the SC VFW, know about them and be able to access them for validation of a question, or concern I may have about state VFW operations? It is incumbent upon every member of the Council of Administration and every Post Commander to have access to, and be familiar with, Department of SC By-Laws.

Additionally, every SC VFW member should be able to access this document, AND YOU CAN! All you have to do is go to VFWSC.org, go over to the “RESOURCES” column and scroll down until you come to the By-Laws section and then just click on it.

NOTE: If your Post has By-Laws and they are not available to you on a Post web-site. You need to contact your Post Commander or Adjutant and ask them to post a copy on the Post Bulletin Board where they are available for every member to read. These are NOT secret documents and they regulate how your Post operates.

PS: EVERY Post member has the right to recommend revisions to YOUR Post By-Laws. SECTION 202 of the National By-Laws tells you what is needed to get your amendment considered for adoption.

****SPEAKING of BY-LAWS** – It is getting around to election time. You may have favorite candidates, or you may have political issues you are passionate about. **Do you know what you can and cannot do in regards to politics and the wearing of any portion of a VFW uniform in publically supporting your views??**

Here’s a sample of the do’s and don’ts: “No officer or member of the VFW shall in any manner use the VFW for partisan politics”..

National By-Laws - ARTICLE VII, Section 702 – Politics is a must read if you think you can combine politics and the VFW!

Are you moving and want to make sure you keep getting your VFW Magazine?

You can submit an electronic change by going to MSC@VFW.org and provide your old address, your new address and your Post number.

Or, you can mail your most current VFW address label off the VFW magazine with your new address to:

Data Entry, VFW, 406W. 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111.

NOTE: Anyone can receive a subscription to the VFW Magazine for \$15 a year stateside and \$20 a year overseas. This will entitle you to ten (10) editions of the magazine for the year. All they have to do is send the mailing information, with payment to; VFW Quartermaster General's Office, VFW National Hdqtrs., 406 W. 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111

Want to send a 'Letter-to-the-Editor' of VFW Magazine? Your letter has to refer to something published in the current (last month's) edition and must be 100 words or less. There is no guarantee your letter will be published as VFW Magazine receives numerous letters every month and only has space to publish a few. Send your electronic (email) letter to; magazine@vfw.org

Want to get more involved with your VA Health Records. Just go to: www.myhealth.va.gov and fill-out the necessary information. Make sure that you check the "VA Patient" and "Veteran" areas under 'what's your relationship to the VA'?

Want to know what your burial rights are under VA care? go to: www.cem.va.gov. This is something you and your spouse/survivor's/power-of-attorney should do now, so when that time comes, the required person/s know exactly what to do.

Community Care – What is it?, how does it work?, am I, as a VA patient, entitled to use this system?, what do I have to do to find out? – It's simple, just go to va.gov/communitycare or stop by your **VA care facility** and ask to talk to someone about community care.

SC VA HOSPITALS AND CLINICS – Are frequently in need of various veteran support items that are not funded for by the VA. They look towards donations to get these items. Each VA facility is unique in the programs they create and operate to support veterans, and in the support they provide for veterans and their families living on their own, or homeless veterans and their families.

Each VA facility needs a lot of outside support in order to make their programs productive for the veteran. Something as simple as bottled water, or adult coloring books, or crossword puzzles for the participants of a PTSD group therapy session, or kitchen supplies to support a veteran family move into a new residence, or socks, underwear, outer wear, hats, gloves, etc. for veterans that need these items.

Do you, your Post or District support a VA facility near you? If not, why not?? It's as simple as contacting your nearby VA facility, asking for the Volunteer Services Coordinator. Getting together with that person and finding out what they need and then going out and getting it. AND MOST IMPORTANTLY ...keeping in touch with them.

Here's what I do. I work with the VA Clinic in my area. I have a great rapport with the Volunteer Services Coordinator (there's two of them). Most times they will send me an email stating a need. If I have not heard from them in a while, I will send them an email and ask if they need anything. Once a need is determined, I go out and get what they need. HOW? I put out a notice in our Post for the Post and Auxiliary (they always provide me with a check to purchase some/all of the need items). I contact my local sub-division for help (and they always come through) and occasionally I will go to a local store and ask for help. BOTTOM LINE! By the time I get done asking, I have received everything the clinic asked for, and most times more.

Recently the clinic expressed a need for bottled water. Within 2 days I acquired 150 bottles of water and 2 days later, delivered it to the clinic.

KEEP IN MIND that for everything you help provide to that VA clinic or hospital, YOU are helping a fellow veteran in need!

Because of today's health issues. You MUST pre-coordinate, with the VA facility, a delivery date/time for anything you collect and plan on delivering.

DID YOU KNOW – Your State Surgeon (**Kirk Douglass**) is responsible for manning and managing the SC VFW Veterans Affairs Volunteer Service (VAVS) program which works with the various VA facilities in the state. He has two openings that need a VFW coordinator. They are the Beaufort (District 1) VA facility and the Sumter (District 2) VA facility. If you are a member of one of these Post's and would like to have something very worthwhile to do? Contact Chairperson Douglass at wdouglass@sc.rr.com and volunteer.

When you provide anything to the clinic. It is a "Community Service". You fill out the state CS form and get it to Nick Camera. There is also a VA Donation Form you fill out and have signed by the VA facility. This form keeps track of what you/your Post has donated.

FROM THE DESK OF YOUR AUXILIARY PRESIDENT – Cathey Farley

I am so very proud of our National Awards for 2019/2020 by the following members:

****Veterans & Family Support** - Outstanding Performance - Outstanding Performance - **1st Place - Beth Tufts**

****Buddy Poppy/National Home** - Best Promotion of VFW National Home helpline - **Patricia Williams**

****Historian/Media Relations** - Best Promotion of Training on media relations - **Lisa Levangie-Colon**

Outstanding Performance - **2nd Place - Lisa Levangie-Colon**

****Americanism** - Photo Collage - **Donna Marie King**

****Scholarship** - Outstanding Performance - **2nd Place - Joanne Sullivan**

****Chief of Staff** - Award to Member for presenting the 10reasons to have an Auxiliary - **Pricilla**

Blassingame

****Mentoring** - Awards to Members - **1st Place - Janice Bond, 2nd Place -Theodora Montequ, 3rd**

Place - Laura Jo Sweetsir & Connie Palmer

****Membership Awards** - **Audrey Smith** - \$200.00

South Carolina is very proud of the work you accomplished and the well-earned awards!

The Auxiliary is going virtual! We had our first Zoom workshop on July 18 followed by a zoom Council of Administration. Both were a great success and watch for more to follow. I will always announce a zoom meeting/workshop well in advance on Facebook and thru emails.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the School of Instruction on August 14-15 in Columbia at the Doubletree Hotel. I would like to remind everyone to please "register" with your District President the NUMBER of people attending from each Auxiliary. Also, all information presented at the School of Instruction will be available to those unable to attend.

Everyone stay cool and stay healthy!

Cathey Farley
VFW Auxiliary President
Department South Carolina

Everyone who has a Podium Edition of the Congressional Charter, By-Laws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual for 2020 - This book **DOES NOT** change for 2021 (no new book). Keep your current edition and remind everyone who may have the 2020 Podium Edition to keep it !!

EDITOR'S NOTE: It was announced at the School of Instruction, that a new "COVID Edition" of the Podium Book is in the process of being published. Stay tuned for availability dates!

Do You Know – The state with the largest VFW membership is PENNSYLVANIA with **68,500+** members, **393** Posts and **29** Districts.

The VA and Your Financial Hardships – Because of the hardships and stresses brought on to you by the COVID 19 pandemic. Those of you that have a Veterans Benefits Administration Debt. The VA is offering temporary relief in the form of suspending all actions on veterans debts under the jurisdiction of the Treasury Department and suspending collection action or extending repayment terms on pre-existing VA debts, as the veteran prefers until further notice.

Veterans who fit this criteria can contact the VA 'S Debt Management Center at 1-800-827-0648 to request assistance. Veterans can also go to benefitsquestions.org to digitally reach out to DAV'S benefits advocates for any other sort of assistance.

MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA (MST) is a women only problem! **WRONG!** – Up until 2018, more men reported experiencing MST than their female counterparts. Up until 2018 nearly 81,000 male veterans had reported MST to the VA when in the process of seeking VA care.

Since 2015 there has been a 20% increase in sexual assaults (male & female). However; convictions for these assaults has taken a 60% nose-dive according to the Defense Department Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office. And, between 2016 and 2019, 64% of women assault survivors reported some sort of retaliation after reporting an assault.

Did you serve in the Gulf War (In country) (Operation Desert Shield or

Operation Desert Storm? – If so, VFW Magazine wants to hear from you: Email your Name, VFW Post or Department, your location in the war zone, your unit and rank in the war zone. Then provide "your most vivid memories" of your time there. VFW magazine might just publish your story in a future magazine.

Send (by email only) the above info to: magazine@vfw.org.

Do You Know – That from WW II forward to this very day, the U.S. Navy still classifies all Navy personnel lost on a ship sinking at sea, or otherwise, and not personally identified (no body) as MISSING IN ACTION (MIA) with the caviot "Presumed Drowned"!

ANOTHER SUCCESS STORY FROM POST 10804 MEMBER AND VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER OF FLORENCE, DIRECTOR, C.B. ANDERSON (Another veteran off the street).

A previously homeless veteran placed into permanent housing in a neighboring county. The items on the floor are a kitchen kit.....everything you would need to open your kitchen: kit provided

through grants at the local Elks Lodge in Florence. Also, there is a "welcome Home" kit.....other items for the house including cleaning supplies; kit provided through grants at the local Florence Elks Lodge. The box fan is donated by Humanna Insurance and the hygiene box (to the left) was provided by the kids at Carolina Academy of Lake City.

The veteran has very little income so was placed in a less expensive apartment. Because of that, there was no stove, fridge, or air conditioner. The resource center does not provide appliances so I put out an e-mail to my "friends of the resource center" e-mail list. The same day, a person called to donate a stove and volunteer to deliver all the appliances. Another person called and was willing to purchase a new fridge for the apartment (pictured). Another person called and was willing to purchase a new window air conditioner (pictured). ECHO was carrying some food and will purchase a new bed with mattresses and linens. The veteran can now make a fresh start.

If any of you have been looking recently, you realize that it is hard to find an "in stock" fridge. If you find one in stock, it is very expensive. The same is true for air conditioners. The DIY projects have put manufacturers behind due to the virus....with lay-offs and illness.

Great job C.B. by you and your wonderful group of donors !! ☺



A former homeless veteran in Florence showing off his new home and some of the donated supplies he needs to make a fresh start (NOTE: The Resource Center has a signed press release to use this veterans picture))

Do you have a student-veteran chapter in a college or university near your post (check below)? If so, here's a good chance for your post to work with that group, have a good source to recruit new VFW members and create a conduit between the two organizations that can be used to help many of these young veterans with veteran issues.

THANKS TO – Johnny Guest for assembling this information !

Johnny Guest, Department of SC VFW, Chairman for SVA; cell phone: 954-740-2027; e-mail: johnnyguest@bellsouth.net

Active SVA Chapters, South Carolina	Contact	
Aiken Technical College	sva@atc.edu	
Central Carolina Technical College, Sumter		
Charleston School of Law	charlestonvets@gmail.com	
Charleston Southern University (CSU)		
College of Charleston	vmss@cofc.edu	
Citadel	citadelveterans@gmail.com	
Clemson	veteran@clemson.edu	

Coastal Carolina	coastalsva@coastal.edu	
ECPI University, Columbia		
ECPI University, Greenville	skatz@ecpi.edu	
Greenville Technical College		
Horry-Georgetown Technical College, Conway	hgtc-sva@hgtc.edu	
Lander University	sva@lander.edu	
Midlands Technical College, Columbia	vsoc@midlandstech.edu	
Spartanburg Community College		
Technical College of Low Country	svo@tcl.edu	
Tri-County Technical College	sfrank@tctc.edu	
University of South Carolina, Columbia	sosva@gmail.sc.edu	
University of South Carolina, Aiken		
University of South Carolina, Beaufort	sandsharkveterans@gmail.com	
University of South Carolina Upstate, Spartanburg	sva@email.uscupstate.edu	
University of South Carolina, Sumter		
Winthrop University	studentveterans@winthrop.edu	

CONGRATULATIONS – to Dwight Hora for being elected as the “Supreme Jr. Vice-Commander for the Military Order of the COOTIES. He is the FIRST VFW member from South Carolina to be elected to a National Cootie office !!

P.S. If you are interested in getting involved in the S.C. Cooties? You can contact James “Smokey” Stover at smostover@aol.com or call 843-345-9560

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE – 2021

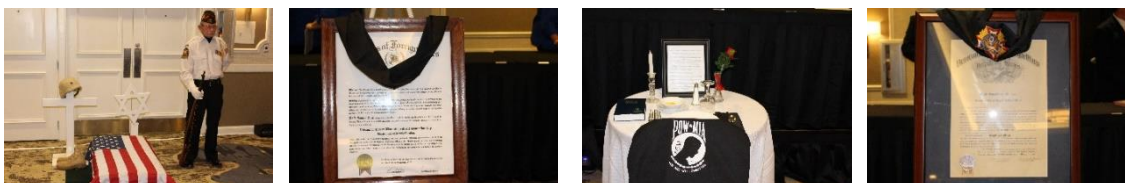
The 2020 conference has been cancelled, but, as of right now, the South Carolina VFW hosted 2021 conference is still on for some time in November 2021. This can't happen effectively if SCVFW doesn't have the volunteer force it needs.

If you would like to volunteer to help the conference in any way. You can contact Richard Bell (Dept. Chairperson) at rbell2080@gmail.com , or Dana Fogner (Aux Chairperson) at fognerd@gmail.com

Well the Department Veteran Memorial Service and Awards Ceremony happened Friday 14 August and the School of Instruction happened on Saturday 15 August in spite of COVID 19. Social distancing and mandatory masks were the order of the day (both days). This event happened because of the hard work of many people. The Department of South Carolina VFW THANKS every person who helped and every person who attended for making the event the success that it was.

SPECIAL THANKS to the management and staff of the Doubletree who went out of their way to accommodate all our needs and to make us feel welcome.

The following is a summary of the event:



Honoring our departed Veterans and Auxiliary members



Commander Ted Tufts with Adjutant Betty Hilliard, President Cathey Farley, Ted & Cathey with soloist Karen Camera (she did a FABULOUS job) and some of the Department & Auxiliary leadership



Patriot Pen winner James Q. Caddell sponsored by Post 6932 of District 9
Voice of Democracy winner Olivia G. Lee sponsored by Post 6830 of District 4

AUXILIARY AWARDS

Veterans and Military Support Programs by Post Auxiliary

8346, 10624, 6740, 10330, 6444, 6830, 10804 and 3137 and the Department of SC Auxiliary

The following chairpersons/persons/Auxiliary's were recognized for their leadership –*

- *Youth Activities – Alissa Rorer
- *Scholarship Program – Joanne Sullivan
- *Veterans and Family Support – Beth Tufts
- *Buddy Poppys – Patricia Williams
- *Membership Mentoring – Audrey Smith & Laura Jo Sweetsir
- *Outstanding Secretary – Beverly Crosby
- *Outstanding Hospital Volunteer – Angela Long
- *Outstanding Chairman – Donna Marie King
- *Outstanding Auxiliary Member – Betty Brewster
- *Outstanding District President – Beth Tufts
- *Outstanding Auxiliary President – Susan Perkins
- *Most Increase of Membership (101 new) – Post 3137 – Isle of Palms

Outstanding Award Winners Above





The following Auxiliaries were recognized in the categories indicated

- *Americanism – 12136, 6500, 10624, 3137
- *Buddy Poppy/National Home – 3746, 10980, 10624, 3137
- *Hospital – 12136, 11079, 10624, 3433
- *Legislative – 12136, 6444, 10624, 9539
- *Media – 12136, 6500, 6740, 10804
- *Membership – 8131, 9138, 6740, 4262
- *Mentoring – 12136, 8346, 10624, 3137
- *Scholarship – 12136, 10980, 10624, 3433
- *Veterans and Family Support – 12136, 10980, 10624, 3137
- *Youth Activities – 12136, 6500, 8738





DEPARTMENT AWARDS

- *Outstanding Community Service – Post 3137
- *Outstanding Chaplain – Charles Blankin, Post 445
- *Outstanding Recruiter – Charles Stallings, Jr. Post 3137
- *Outstanding Post Quartermaster – Gary Landry, Post 6740
- *Outstanding District Quartermaster – Douglas Way, District 4
- *Outstanding VFW Member – Wilton Fowler, Post 9273
- *Outstanding Post Commander (a two way tie) – Ginger Graham Post 6740 & Buddy Gillam Post 3137
- *Outstanding District Commander – Edward Stefanak, Jr., District 8
- *Outstanding Post – Post 6740, Lake Murray





ALL AMERICAN AWARD WINNERS

*Post 3137, Henry C. Gillam, Jr.

*District 8 and Post 3447 – Edward G. Stefanak, Jr.

*Post 6561, Clinton Gillam

*District 1, William J. King

***DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH CAROLINA - Robert W. Holsclaw**

All State Teams

Post	Commander	Quartermaster
445	James Berger	James Morris
9509	Reden Woodberry	Robert McAllister
10624	William King	Stephen Henderson
6561	Clinton Gillam	Charles Holloway
6740	Ginger Graham	Gary Landry
8738	Bailey Bryant	Roy Williams
6734	Roy Williams	Jeffrey Hunter
9273	Bernard Barber	Jesse Mauck
6732	John Hill	Robert Mann
12136	James Taylor	Robert Suzansky
6500	Isiah Felder	Dentist Harvin
10420	John Aberella	Scott loftus
9539	Chad Caldwell	Mark Mc Murray (Co-Captains)
3137	Henry Gillam, Jr.	Charles Stallings (Captains)
All State Team District Commander		
District 1	William King	John Mellert





The primary reason for the August 14/15 get together was to hold a School of Instruction (Sol). Your Sol was conducted by briefings that were presented to everyone in attendance and through ZOOM for those unable to make it to Columbia and who logged on to ZOOM. The following is what was presented at the Sol:

Veterans Service Officer –DSO Martin Snowden
 Veterans & Military Support – Allen Rundall
 Department Inspector – Johnny Wilson
 Department Surgeon/Hospital – Kirk Douglass
 Awards – Janet Chisolm-Richard
 Department Newsletter – Bill La Monte
 Recruiting – Paul Slater
 Adjutant Duties/All-American Dashboard –Betty Hilliard
 District Report Cards – Edward Stefanak, Jr.
 Quartermaster/Trustee – James Fox
 Patriot Pen – Kenneth Dennings
 Teachers Award – Ginger Graham
 Buddy Poppy/POW MIA – Dwight Hora
 Department Programs & C-N-C Programs – Ted Tufts
 Commanders Comments – Ted Tufts

Community Service – Nick Camera
 Natl/State Legislative Service – Dentist Harvin
 Department Chaplain – Wilton Fowler
 Judge Advocate - Paul Lyles
 Safety/Life Saving/Loyalty – James Butler
 Membership/Post Revitalization – John Penman
 Scouting/Youth Awards – John David Mellert
 Veteran Homeless & Employment – CB Anderson
 (Commander's Special Project)
 Voice of Democracy – Charles Holloway
 National Home for Children – Edward Stefanak, Jr



As you can see, the Sol was well attended with masks mandatory and social-distancing



On August 20th, VFW Post 10804 partnered with the Veterans Welcome Home & Resource Center (Hutton House) Of Little River, the Submarine Vets of the Grand-Strand and The Blood Connection of Conway to hold this blood drive that also collected plasma. All donations will stay local to help veterans and civilians alike.

NOTE: \$10 gift cards were given to each donor. All Post 10804 donors gave their gift cards to the Hutton House. Picture #1 is Post 10804 members, #2 is Department President Cathey Farley, picture #3 is Post 10804 Auxiliary member Karen Camera with an after-donation thumbs-up and picture #4 is Post 10804 Quartermaster Dan Farley about to enter the 'donation-den'.

Speaking of Blood Drives –

Red Cross Blood Drive

The South Carolina Department of Veterans of Foreign Wars will be sponsoring a Red Cross blood drive Thursday, November 12, 2020, from 10:00AM - 3:00PM, 210 Glassmaster Rd, Lexington, SC 29207.

Additionally, the Red Cross will be testing all blood, platelet, and plasma donations for COVID-19 antibodies. Donors who test positive for COVID-19 antibodies may have the unique opportunity to help patients fighting the disease with their antibodies.

Appointments may be scheduled for the November 12 blood drive by going redcrossblood.org, "Schedule Appointment."

Volunteering is another way our comrades can donate; if you would like to volunteer with registration or the canteen at the blood drive, please call or text **Kirk Douglass, Department Surgeon 803 730-8874 or email wdouglass@sc.rr.com**.

THANK YOU Commander Kirk Douglass, VFW Post 8738, Lexington for this great article. I could not think of a better way to bring this edition of the Department Newsletter to a close!!



This is Raina Michelle Bryant, a member of Girl Scout Troop 2316, Lexington. She designed and painted this mural on the wall of Lexington VFW Post 4242. Ms. Bryant spent over 100 hours at the Post designing, sketching and finally completing the 16 portraits. For her efforts, she received the Girl Scouts highest badge, the “Gold Award”. Ms. Bryant graduated from Lexington High School this year. She will be attending Winthrop University, majoring in education. WELL DONE RAINA MICHELLE BRYANT!!!

COMMANDERS HANDBOOK – Is available electronically at VFWSC.org.

If you want to keep up with what’s happening with the SC VFW. The Department Calendar can also be found at VFWSC.org

Bill La Monte (Post 10804)
Department of SC Newsletter
4william6@gmail.com

DO YOU KNOW THE FIVE SIGNS OF EMOTIONAL SUFFERING??

Personality Changed, Feeling Agitated, Feeling Withdrawn, Poor Self-Care, Feeling Hopeless

