
DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

DISTRICT 1

POST-ITS FOR THE POSTS

FALL 2022



Current Standings *(As of this printing.)*

District 1	85.71%	Department	85.58%
District 1 Auxiliary	92.82%	Department	86.48%

From the Commander:

Comrades and Auxiliary

Welcome to fall weather and with that many wonderful things to do around the area. We have so many events upcoming: Veterans Day, Parades, Freedom Festival and Trunk or Treat at headquarters and many other activities. Let's not forget the feasting with family and friends for Thanksgiving and yet to come Christmas and Santa. I want each of you to enjoy these special days with family and friends we are so thankful to call our extended family.

The District was involved in the first ever one-on-one "Training" School of Instruction on 20 August. Each Auxiliary and Post was requested to bring in non-perishable food for VA Hospital and Humana was going to double our donations. The District collected 164 pounds and Humana donated a whopping 2,000 pounds for our veterans in need at the VA Hospital. Just an awesome job by everyone.

The District as a whole held a recruiting event on 28 Aug at Holy City Brewing. We had several post in attendance and a great time and we recruited 5 new members. Please remember that this is a National requirement that each District and Post have 2 recruiting events for the year.

I am working on the next District recruiting event on 5 Nov at Credit One Tennis center. The event will be a preparty for Freedom Fest and there will be a concert starring Lee Brice and Big and Rich. More details coming but looks like we will need to be out there after 2 to set up and pre-party will be 4 - 6 pm.

Programs:

- Voice of Democracy, Patriot Pen and Teacher of the Year Information.
- Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen Essay: Applications available on www.vfwsc.org.
- VOD theme "Why is the Veteran Important?" more info contact Janet Chisolm Richards at janetcr@yahoo.com
- Patriots Pen theme "My Pledge to Our Veterans?" more info contact Bill King at billking747fe@gmail.com
- Teacher of the Year packets are due by Oct 31, 2022, winners are due to District on Nov 15, 2022, Entry forms are available at www.vfwsc.org. For more info contact James (Smokey) Stovall at smostover@aol.com.
- Law Enforcement/Fire Fighter/Emergency Medical Technician are due Dec 15, 2022 www.vfwsc.org. For more info contact Tony Brown tony@empirepmgroup.com.

Entries are due to post by Oct 31, 2022. Winners are due to District Nov 15, 2022. Entry forms are available at www.vfwsc.org. Please screen the winning applications closely.

Reporting:

Have you ordered Buddy Poppies? Have you donated to VMS? What have you done for National Home?

Have you considered donating to Department Commander's Special Project (TAPS)? Our Veteran Service Officer (VSO) is very important and we need to support our VSO because they help every veteran with their claims, so contribute to the Department of South Carolina

We know about our Community Service, American, Youth Activities, Safety and Veteran and Military Support each post needs to have at least one entry but for All-State you need 5 entries in each

Next District meeting is **November 19, 2022, at ELKs Lodge, Walterboro SC, eat at 1pm and meet at 2pm.**

Reminder: District Commanders Special Project needs to brought to the District 1 Meeting.

In Your Comradeship

Curtis Peterson

District 1 Commander

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MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT ONE SURGEON

HAVE YOU GOTTEN YOUR FLU SHOT?

I know that Australia is a long way from South Carolina, but it is important to share that they have had the worst flu season reported in 5 years and it is quite possible that the United States could be in danger of the same type of flu season that they are experiencing. If you have not had your annual flu shot yet, please consider not only getting one, but if you are 65 or older, and many of us are, ask about the high dose shot that covers three different strains of influenza and designed especially for our senior citizens. My doctor recommended it for me and I decided that it was my best option. Also, I experienced very little side effects from the shot.

Stay well my fellow comrades.

Buddy Gillam

District 1 Surgeon

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Membership

Comrades If you have not logged into the members only section of <https://vfwsc.org> then you need to do so as soon as possible to check your access. In that area is an additional spreadsheet you need to keep up with. This spreadsheet tracks the Department Commanders requirements for All State that are not posted on the Report Card. Post Commanders should have identified one Comrade in your post to ensure the Community Service and programs are current. Any Comrade can log into the members only area and see how your post is doing. There are a number of new members who may not have access to the members only section and they should submit the access request on the contact page of the website. The Commanders book and calendar as well as the CnC's programs are located on the website under About/Department Commander 2022-2023. Every thing you need to know about the current membership year is here. If your post has a Facebook or webpage I need to have that information so your page can be judged for the Department Website/Media Award.

Comrades, District 1 is in 5th place in the Department at 85.71%. We are doing well and now that some of the awards are past we should start moving forward quickly. We send out status updates and information on how to get members and we are here to help in any way possible. Give us a call or email a request for information and we will get that for you. Remember each post if you are in the running for AA needs to do two (2) recruiting drives. If you were present when the District did a drive you got will get credit if you put in the information on the AA dashboard.

Keep up the great work District 1 and as always, **WE ARE # ONE!**

Ted Tufts

Membership Chairman

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Pact Act Guidance with MOU between VFW and B&M; VBA Information

Comrades:

Per the attached guidance, VA must still process claims with PACT Act related conditions if the claim can be granted under current authority/regulations (Direct Service Connection, Secondary Service Connection, Aggravation, etc.).

If the claim cannot be granted under current regulations, but is a newly established presumptive condition, VBA has been instructed to begin developing the claim by retrieving and uploading Service Treatment Records (STRs), Official Military Personnel File (OMPF), and current treatment records. Once pertinent records have been uploaded and both qualifying service and a diagnosis of a new presumptive condition have been confirmed, VSRs are instructed to order Compensation and Pension (C&P) exams to evaluate the severity of the condition. VSRs have specifically been instructed NOT to request medical nexus opinions for newly presumptive conditions. Once development has been completed RVSRs have been instructed to hold the claim until VBA begins processing PACT Act decisions in January 2023.

If a claim cannot be granted under current regulations and the conditions claimed are based on toxic exposure, but not one of the new presumptive conditions, VSRs must still begin to develop the claim by retrieving STRs, OMPF, and current treatment records, but they are not to order C&P exams. The claim will then be held pending future guidance.

As a reminder, VFW has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the law firm Bergmann & Moore (B&M), LLC. If you are contacted by a claimant that meets the eligibility to pursue a lawsuit related to the Camp Lejeune Justice Act (CLJA), please recommend the claimant contact B&M through their [website's landing page](#). B&M is working with a national mass tort law firm and will review each proposed settlement to see if the Veteran is maximizing both VA and CLJA benefits.

VBA news:

- We set records in claims production, rating 5% more claims than ever before (1.7M). This reduced the backlog by over 100,000 claims, with average time pending dropping to just over 20 days. All of this was done while achieving our highest quality ever nationwide.
- hired almost 7,000 new employees, which is four times our previous best.
- completed 72,000 field exams, deciding over 510,000 claims for Veterans and survivors.

John Johnson
Command Sergeant Major, USA (Retired)
VFW Department Service Officer
Department of South Carolina
VA Regional Office
6437 Garners Ferry Rd, Suite 1124
Columbia, SC 29209
Office: (803) 647-2442
Fax: (803) 647-2313
VA ACCREDITATION #: 45376



District Commander and Department Adj welcoming Committee.

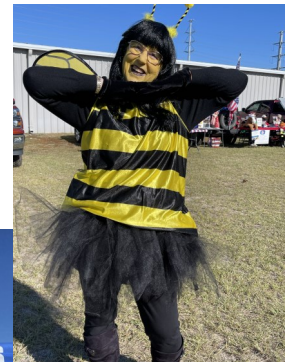


Post 445 Auxiliary President Barbara Barger and Department Aux President Beth Tufts clowning around.



Left—District 1 Commander Curtis Peterson in his element.

Bumblebees are BUZZING EVERY-WHERE!
We Bee-lieve in our Veterans!



Right— State Commander Ed Stefanak, Department President Beth Tufts and State National Council Member Ted Tufts at the Family Freedom programs table.



Left—Post 9509 District 1 Auxiliary Sr. Vice Patrice Kornahrens, Kelley Bowles and Department President Beth Tufts.



DISTRICT 1 AT THE TRUNK OR TREAT DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

Post 12102 Colleton County

The Post and Auxiliary got together before our regular meeting and assembled Buddy Poppy Ornaments and pack shoe boxes. Everyone had a good time and enjoyed a few Halloween treats.



Post 3137—The Post on the Coast

Post 3137 held a Flag Retirement Service Oct. 8th. We retired 900 plus American Flags. We collected \$331.00 in Donations for 'Heal Our Heroes' during the Colt Ford show at the windjammer next door on Oct. 14th. We sent a \$1,000.00 donation to Fisher House of Charleston.

**In Comradeship,
Bo Stallings
Commander Post 3137**

Post 10256—Goose Creek

We held a 9/11 ceremony for the Holder Construction Company (they were building the Google Warehouse) on Sept 8, 2022. I had two Comrades and four Auxiliary members present. We had a couple of first responders join us which are part of our Auxiliary, Kayla Brock is a TSA agent and Justin Kutski a Summerville Police officer who is also from New York spoke at the event. There were over 35 construction workers present.

Attend an membership drive at the Goose Creek Fall Festival on October 8th, 2020. Had the District Commander, Department's Junior Vice and National Council Member in attendance. Made contact with not only veterans but the community to explain what the VFW has to offer to the community and the programs like Patriot Pen (PP), Voice of Democracy (VOD) and Teacher of the year along with National programs of First responders awards. As a group, we handed out over 50 (both Comrades and Auxiliary) membership applications and over 100 applications for the PP and VOD contest.

Held a community service event for the Low Country Chief's Mess which help clean the post and provided guidance for four new selected Chief Petty Officers. Not only did the Chief selects come out and clean the area around the post, but their families as well. This has become a yearly event and is a perfect way for the Low Country Chief's mess to give back to organizations that help veterans, but the VFW mess newly selected Chief experience from the retired Chief's community.

**Michael Goad
Commander Post
10256**



Post 3433—Summerville

Town ushers in Berlin G. Myers Parkway sign

Rotary Club of Summerville reps gathered with members of the Summerville Junior Service League, the Oakbrook Rotary Club and the Summerville Evening Rotary Club on Oct. 14 to officially ring in the recently constructed Town of Summerville brick-based signage at N. Main Street and Berlin G. Myers Parkway.

Post 3433 VFW Emblem is displayed on this sign. Post Sr Vice

Commander Robert Gatch attended the event and was instrumental in acquiring the VFW logo for the sign.



New for District 1.

Comrades and Auxiliary

As you know we have been working on District Polo Shirts for members to buy and wear at District events. Hopefully with our promotion to sell them to district members that when other members from different districts will wow and create competition with each district to promote a better family atmosphere. The attachment is the color of our shirt and logo. The cost for this shirt will be \$25.00. We will use the small profit towards District programs.

Please reply to Dennis Hamilton at dennis@hamiltoninnovative.com on size of shirt you will need then he will work on your payment ie: venmo, paypal, check or cash.



Comrades, Our past National CnC Hal Roesch will be the speaker at Pearl Harbor. We are looking for a good turn out from District 1. The information for ordering the wreath and festivities after the ceremony is at the end of this newsletter.

Also don't forget Wreaths across America wreath laying ceremony at Beaufort National Cemetery December 17th. If you have never been it is worth the trip to participate covering the cemetery in wreaths for our fallen veterans.

The Department Website has lots of good information and the About, Resources and News tabs are continually updated. Any post who uses the VFW Website Solution program and has the news section enabled will see items added to the Department news. If you are using the Calendar section you will see District and Department events on your Calendar. If you are not using the VFW Website Solution program for our website you might want to check it out. You can find information on vfwsc.org

Mr. MAC VFW POST 9509

Post 9509 has accomplished a lot this year already, with more to come. We have adopted "A" Company of the 118 th Army National Guard unit in Moncks Corner and provided them and their families with food for their Pre-Deployment cook out the night before they deployed. We received a very nice "Thank You" letter from the unit's Family Readiness Group (FRG) for our support. We have partnered with another veteran's group (Towns for Troops) to be able to send every soldier in our adopted unit a Christmas stocking for Christmas.

Comrades have participated in the District recruiting events. We have also partnered with the VA Veteran's Affairs Office and the Veteran's Health Administration to host Question and Answer sessions so that our veterans can ask direct questions regarding their VA claims and health care issues.

Our Auxiliary has been busy with VA hospital visits, and assisting the Comrades with donations to the Victory House in Walterboro. The Auxiliary also put on our Trunk or Treat festival, which went very well. They have also donated money to several veteran's organizations, as well as assisting in passing out food at a local food bank.

Upcoming we have our usual Veteran's Day ceremony at the Moncks Corner Veteran's Memorial at 11:00am. This will be followed by a lunch provided at the Post. We are very proud to be hosting a Thanksgiving Day meal to all veteran's and their families. We will also be hosting Navy students from the Navy Nuclear Power school, as well as the Navy Nuclear Prototype school. We are looking to provide meals for about 200-275 people.

Post 9509 is looking to have a very productive year and we hope to keep the momentum going!

**Yours in Comradeship,
Brad McAllister
Commander
Post 9509**

2022-2023 Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY VFW VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
2022-2023 Theme
"Why Is The Veteran Important?"
Student Entry Deadline: October 31, 2022
Patriotic Audio Essay Competition Grand Prize: \$30,000 Award

PATRIOT'S PEN VFW VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
2022-2023 Theme
"My Pledge to Our Veterans."
Student Entry Deadline: October 31, 2022
Patriotic Written Essay Competition Grand Prize: \$5,000 Award

**October 31st
DEADLINE IS APPROACHING**



31 October is the cut off date for these awards. Do you have your judges selected and ready to judge. Don't forget, you can report the number of judges, distance traveled to judge, time taken to judge and the amount of money awarded on your community service report.



Next up, National, Department and District awards. All the information needed is in the Commanders book on <https://vfwsc.org>. Don't forget the folks who help support your post be it members or outside volunteers. The information for the Jackie D. Martin District 1 volunteer award is under the District tab on the website.



<i>District 1 Officers 2021-2022</i>		<i>District 1 Auxiliary Officers 2022-2023</i>	
Commander	Curtis W Peterson	President	Sharen Peterson
Sr. Vice Cmdr.	RC Woodberry	Sr. Vice President	Patrice Lamb
Jr. Vice Cmdr.	Rex Brown	Jr. Vice President	Lynn Holgate
Quartermaster	Dennis Hamilton	Treasurer	Sandy Roland
Adjutant	PSC Betty J Hilliard	Secretary	DonnaMarrie King
Chaplain	Charles P Blankin	Chaplain	Kelly Wiggins
Inspector	Robert W Holsclaw	Conductress	Betty Brewster
Judge Advocate	PSC Betty J Hilliard	Guard	Louise Greenhill
Surgeon	Henry C Gillam	Patriotic Instructor	Kathy Thomas
Trustee 1 yr.	Mike T Hadbavny	1 Year Trustee	Pat Pruitt
Trustee 2 yr.	Jim Barger	2 Year Trustee	Michele Jones
Trustee 3 yr.	Chris Manning	3 Year Trustee	Cliff Weaver
Service Officer	Ronnie L Jones		
Chief of Staff	Edwin A Tufts		
Patriots Pen	William J King		
Voice of Democracy	Janet Chisholm-Richard		
Teacher Awards	James 'Smokey' Stover		

District 1 Meetings 2022-2023

August 20, 2022 Saturday	Post 3433, Ladson, SC Eat @ 1:00, Meet @ 2:00	SOI/Meeting
Nov 19, 2022 Saturday	Walterboro ELKS Lodge Meet @ 1:00	236 Milestone Ln Walterboro SC 29488 Travel to Victory House to preset gifts
Feb 25, 2023 Saturday	Post 3433 Ladson, SC Eat @ 1:00, Meet @ 2:00	10154 Bell Wright Rd, Summerville SC Awards/Meeting
May 13, 2023 Saturday	Post 9509, Moncks Corner, SC Eat @ 1:00, Meet @ 2:00	1141 S Live Oak Dr, Moncks Corner SC Convention

Jul 31, 2022

Aug 6, 2022	Trustee Report Due School of Instruction	Headquarters, Columbia	10:00 am
Aug 20, 2022	School of Instruction	Post 3433 Ladson	1:00 pm
Aug 28, 2022	District Recruiting Event Holy	City Brewing (All invited)	10:30 am
Aug 31, 2022	Commanders/Quartermaster	Bond Due	
Sept 11, 2022	Patriots Day	Headquarters, Columbia	TBD
Sept 14, 2022	Auxiliary Birthday (1914)		
Sept 16, 2022	POW/MIA Day	All VFW Posts	
Sept 17, 2022	International Food Festival	Post 3433 Ladson	3:00 pm
Sept 29, 2022	VFW Birthday (1899)		

Oct 15, 2022	District 1 Round Table	Mt Pleasant Post 10624	1:00 pm
Oct 27- 30, 2022	Southern Conference North Carolina		
Oct 22, 2022	Trunk or Treat still in the works	Headquarters, Columbia	TBD
Oct 31, 2022	Audits Due to Department QM		
Oct 31, 2022	VOD, PP, and Teachers Due to Post Chairperson		
Nov 5, 2022	Department CoA Columbia Headquarters		10:00 am
Nov 11, 2022	Veterans Day		
Nov 15, 2022	Due to District 1 PP, VOD and Teachers		
Nov 19, 2022	District Meeting ELK Walterboro SC		
Nov 24, 2022	Day of Feasting and family Happy Thanksgiving		
Nov 26 – Dec 4	District Commander and President on Vacation		
Dec 7, 2022	Pearl Harbor Day at USS Yorktown Wreath Ceremony		10:00 am
Dec 15, 2022	PP, VOD, Teachers and Youth Cadet due to Headquarters		
Dec 17, 2022	Wreaths across America	Beaufort, SC	
Dec 25, 2022	Merry Christmas		
Dec 31, 2022	District Dues due		
Jan 1, 2023	Happy New Years		
Jan 21, 2023	Joint District 1 Round Table Post 3433 Ladson, SC		1:00 pm
Jan 30, 2023	Audits due to Department QM		
Feb 16-19, 2023	Department Conference	Embassy Suites	Columbia
Feb 25, 2023	District 1 Awards Ceremony	Post 3433 Ladson, SC	1:00 pm
Mar 1, 2023	Scout of Year		
Mar 25, 2023	Medal of Honor Day		
Mar 29, 2023	Viet Nam Veterans Day		
Mar 31, 2023	Jackie D Martin Volunteer Award due to District Commander		
Apr 1, 2023	All Awards due to headquarters		
Apr 9, 2023	Happy Easter		
Apr 15, 2023	Auxiliary Program Judging Columbia		
Apr 22, 2023	District 1 Round Table Post 3433 Time 1 pm		
Apr 29, 2023	District Picnic? Audits due to Department QM		
May 6, 2023	Beth's Homecoming Post 3433		10:00 am
May 13, 2023	District Convention	Post 9509 Moncks Corner, SC	1:00 pm
May 19 and 20	Department Commanders Home coming Spartanburg SC		
May 29, 2023	Memorial Day		
Jun 22- 25, 2023	Department Convention		

[VFW Dept of SC District 1 Facebook page](#)

[District 1 on the Department Website.](#)

Pearl Harbor Memorial Ceremony

Date: December 7, 2022

Time: 11am

Where: Patriots Point - YORKTOWN

40 Patriots Point Road Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464



Immediately following Ceremony - Lunch at:

VFW Post 10624 - Mt. Pleasant

1411 Stuart Engals Blvd. Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464 843-884-0062

