

# December 2009 Newsletter

Website – [www.vfwwebcom.org/nc/post9488](http://www.vfwwebcom.org/nc/post9488)

## VFW OFFICERS

Commander – Jeff Friar  
Sr. Vice - Terry Beaver  
Jr. Vice – David Watts  
Quartermaster – Leo Long  
Chaplain – Jerry Overman  
Judge Advocate – Dallas Hudson  
Surgeon – Skip Hunt

Trustee – Alvin Jones  
Trustee – Earl Sechler  
Trustee – Jack Kerns  
Chair. House – Ken Lee  
House – Jim Hopkins  
House – Butch Langley

## LADIES AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President – Colleen Sakala  
Sr. Vice – Deanna Long  
Jr. Vice – Betty Morris  
Treasurer – BJ Rape'  
Chaplain – Christy Railey  
Conductress –

Guard – Karene Sakala  
Trustee – Mary Ann Richardson  
Trustee – Teri Thompkins  
Trustee – Debbie Fox  
Patriotic Inst. – Erin Fox  
Secretary – Elaine Friar

## Commanders Corner:

Let me be one of the first to wish you a very Merry Christmas! Thanks to everyone who helped with the deployment parties for the 1st & 2nd Platoon of the 678th Company. You impressed many families with your generosity and support. You made their family time together very special.

**The calendar reflects the change to our regular monthly meeting to be the third Saturday each month, with breakfast served at 8:00 am and the meeting starting at 9:00 am. We hope to have a good turnout and to see you on December 19<sup>th</sup>.**

In December we have many events going on and I encourage each of you to come out and support your post. Our dinner with the VA Patients is early in the month, on December 9th. The Christmas and New Year's Eve parties are the best deal in Charlotte and they will fill up fast so pick up your tickets as soon as possible.

With all the things going on at the post and the events and parties we each enjoy outside the post, don't forget that we always need your donations to the food barrel. If you help we can fill it again before Christmas. There are needy families in our area who depend upon you. Also remember to renew your membership. You don't want to be locked out in January and pay the fee to get your card reactivated. Renew now!

The Locker dues go up in 2010 to \$1/month. Also, the canteen has long paid the cost of the brown bagging permit while not seeing a return on their investment. Beginning January 2nd, there will be a new "corkage" fee charge for the privilege of brown-bagging. It is a sliding scale based upon the size of the bottle, with the maximum being \$5/bottle. Bartenders will issue signed date stickers and they will be good for 3 months.

**Jeff Friar, Commander**

## Quartermaster:

***The \$30 dues for year 2010 have been payable since July 1, 2009. The December 31, 2009 deadline is this month and all VFW and Men's Auxiliary members are required to pay dues before that date. To remain a member and gain entrance into the Post, dues must be paid before January 1<sup>st</sup>.***

***If your dues are paid after that date, your door card will be deactivated and you must pay an additional \$5 to receive a replacement door card and then you will be eligible for entry into the post.***

**Leo Long, Quartermaster**

## House Committee:

**December 19<sup>th</sup>** is our Christmas Party at the cost of \$20 per person; Dinner is at 7:00 pm. Tickets are available in the canteen.

Christmas dinner on **December 25<sup>th</sup>** will be served for those without a family gathering, Join us at 1:00 pm. The Post will close at 6:00 pm on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

The New Year's Eve Party is **December 31<sup>st</sup>** at the cost of \$30 per person. Dinner will be served at 7:00 pm. Get your tickets at the canteen.

**Ken Lee, Chairman**

## Ladies Auxiliaries:

Greetings one and all!!! Hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving with friends and family. I want to thank everyone that helped with the Unit send offs this past month. We met a lot of wonderful people and they were so appreciative of the food and all of the hard work that you all did. So folks I say thank you and a job well done!!!

I know that this coming month is going to be busy for everyone but I want to remind you that we do have our meeting on the **15th of the month at 7:00 pm**. Please plan on attending as we have a lot to cover for next

month. We can not do what we do without everyone's help. Also remember that your membership dues are NOW payable and must be posted before December 31st. Please send in your payment or drop it off at the Canteen in an envelope addressed to BJ Rape'.

Have a great month and holiday season and always remember our service members and veterans in your hearts and prayers.

***Colleen Sakala, President***

**Military Order of the Cootie:**

Greetings Fellow Cooties, First of all I want to thank all of you for your efforts and the raffle of the hams. It was a great success. The post was even surprised that we gave one to them to use as they wished, but that is what we are all about. If it were not for the post then we could not exist. Thank you VFW 9488.

We are still in need of members willing to become cooties and assist us in our endeavors. We will feed the patients again on **December 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm**. I would like to see as many people at the post that night to meet and greet our veterans. You don't have to be a Cootie, all are welcomed. Also, feel free to invite other post members to see what we are all about.

Also thank you to the ladies for all their hard work. Ladies. Our LOVE for you and all you do does not go unnoticed. Thank you to everyone!!!!!!

***Jim Goins, Seam Squirrel***

**Military Order of the Cootie Auxiliary:**

**December 9<sup>th</sup>** is the Christmas dinner for our veteran from the VA Hospital in Salisbury, NC. *That night we are to provide gift bags to our fifty guests and we are collecting donations of items and/or monies to complete the gift bags. We would appreciate your bring items to the canteen before **December 7<sup>th</sup>** at which time we will wrap the gifts for our veterans. Also, there is a donation jar in the canteen, if you wish to donate monies. We want to make sure the veterans know how much we appreciate their service and wish to make their Christmas a little brighter while they are away from home.*

After a request of many MOCA members, it was voted to temporarily change our meeting time to 11:00am on the first Monday of each month. **December 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am**, we hope all will attend, as many of you have been missed greatly at our nightly meetings. Please come and join us and help with assembling the gift bags, as well as being at the Christmas dinner on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

***B J Rape', MOCA President***

**COLOR GUARD:**

I would like to thank all color guard members who took part in our Veterans Day events. We had three events on this cold and rainy day, all three of which required being outside for substantial lengths of time. However, there were no complaints from our color guard. Their professionalism is a credit to Post 9488. Again, many thanks to Jeff Friar, Oren Hightower, George Tullock, Colleen Sakala, Karene Sakala, Harvey White, Jim Wilson, Dave Majdanski and Jim Rovendro.

***Terry Beaver, Color Guard Commander***