

NEW MEMBER ADVISORY

Veterans of Foreign Wars

POST 10420



Physical Address: A4359 US-17 N Murrells Inlet, SC 29576

Phone: +1 (843) 651-6900

Mailing Address: VFW POST 10420 P.O. BOX 308 Murrells Inlet, SC 29576

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/vfw10420/>

Website: www.vfw10420.org

(VFW Post 10420 Murrells Inlet)



WELCOME NEW COMRADE!

Thank you for your service, and welcome aboard. As a member, you are a crucial part of our Post, and your contributions and support are greatly appreciated. Please review this welcome packet of information, and we look forward to seeing you at post functions, meetings, and other activities.

ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. is a nonprofit veterans' service organization composed of combat veterans as well as active-duty, Guard and Reservists who continue to serve in harm's way.

Founded in 1899 and chartered by Congress in 1936, the VFW is the nation's largest organization of combat veterans and its oldest major veterans' organization. With nearly 1.9 million members located in more than 6,800 VFW Posts worldwide, "NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS." The VFW and its Auxiliaries are dedicated to veterans' service, legislative advocacy, and military and community service programs worldwide. For more information visit our website at www.vfw.org.

THE PURPOSE OF THE VFW

(as Defined by Section 230102 of the Congressional Charter)

The purpose of this corporation shall be fraternal, patriotic, historical, charitable and educational; to preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members; to assist worthy comrades; to perpetuate the memory and history of our dead, and to assist their widows and orphans; to maintain true allegiance to the Government of the United States of America, and fidelity to its Constitution and laws; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom; and to preserve and defend the United States from all her enemies, whomsoever.

POST INFORMATION

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DISTRICT INFORMATION

Post **10420** is a member of District **7**

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Nominations for elected positions - March Elections - April.

The installation of officers is usually held in May.

The newly installed officers take over after the National Convention.

POST ELECTED OFFICERS

- Commander
- Senior Vice Commander
- Junior Vice Commander
- Quartermaster
- Trustees

*Note: Trustees are also elected but are not considered officers. Their duty is to audit the post financial books quarterly.

POST APPOINTED OFFICERS

- Chaplain
- Judge Advocate
- Adjutant
- Service Officer
- Surgeon
- Committee Chairman
- Membership Committee

POST COMMITTEES

- House Committee - Oversees the physical post & canteen and its hired employees.
- Membership Committee - Verifies the eligibility of potential new members.
- Finance Committee (Trustees) – Assists QM with finance matters and yearly budget.
- By-laws Committee - Proposes new Post bylaw changes for the next year.

Note 1: House Committee members are appointed but not considered officers. They oversee the maintenance of the post & canteen.

DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS OF VFW POST OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIMEN

DUTIES OF THE COMMANDER

- Preside at all meetings.
- Observe the laws and usage of the VFW.
- Ensure Post business and activities conducted so as not to violate any laws or regulations.
- Appoint officers and Committee Chairmen to serve at his pleasure.
- Approve all funds disbursed and counter sign with QM Post checks.
- Assure QM bonded and that all dues be paid to District, Department and National along with accurate reporting.
- Assure all activities as required by the VFW are promptly reported.
- Encourage all eligible veterans to join and maintain membership.
- Attend all properly called District and Department meetings.
- Comply with and perform all duties required by VFW by-laws and rituals pertaining to the duties and obligations of the Post Commander.
- Failure without just cause could result in removal from office.

DUTIES OF THE SENIOR VICE COMMANDER (SVC)

- Preside at meetings in absence of Commander.
- Understudy and assist the Commander in the performance of his duties.
- Chair the Membership Committee.

DUTIES OF JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER (JVC)

- Preside at meetings in absence of Commander and SVC.
- Understudy and assist the Commander in the performance of his duties.
- Chair the Activities and Awards Committees.

DUTIES OF QUARTERMASTER (QM)

- Receive and hold all monies and other properties of the Post.
- Pay out monies only after properly authorized by minutes of Post meetings.
- Ensure every position is properly bonded.
- Collect all monies due Post and give receipts, notify all members in arrears and collect dues.
- Credit National, Department and District per capita dues funds.
- Transmit dues payable to Department and National in a timely manner.
- Maintain a dues reserve fund of half all member dues paid annually, to be credited to General Fund annually in July.
- Maintain a Relief Fund and other funds as may be approved by Post meetings.
- Maintain the books and records at all times in a neat and efficient manner and be ready for inspection.
- To serve as Treasurer of all Post Committees.
- To keep all books and post records at the Post facility.

DUTIES OF ADJUTANT

- At the direction of the Commander prepare all reports as required.
- Attest by his signature and the seal of the Post all official actions of the Post.
- Keep the following books or files properly prepared:
 - By-Laws, Ritual and Manual of Procedure of National, Department,
 - The original application of every member admitted to the Post.
 - Record of the proceedings of each meeting of the Post after correction and approval by the membership.
 - A file of all orders or circulars issued by the C in C, National Council of Administration, Department, District and Post Commander.
 - A correspondence file.
 - Proof of eligibility file for all Post officers.
 - The role of departed comrades.
- All books and records should be kept at the Post facility.

DUTIES OF CHAPLAIN

- Visit the sick and shut-in Post members and report on same.
- Organize and lead all Post and ceremonial prayers.
- Organize and lead all Burial and Memorial services.

DUTIES OF JUDGE ADVOCATE

- Provide Commander Interpretation of By-Laws, Manual of Procedures and Ritual.
- Interpretation of local laws as applicable to Post operations.

DUTIES OF SURGEON

- Promote health programs for the benefit of the Post and the community.
- Maintain an up-to-date file of prevailing health issues.

DUTIES OF TRUSTEE

- Quarterly audit the QM books and records and report to the membership the results.
- Prepare quarterly Trustee audit report to submit through the Commander to the Department Quartermaster for referral to the Department Inspector.
- Verify all expenditures of the Post for correctness and accuracy.
- Audit all committees having receipt or expenditure of Post funds.

DUTIES OF THE OFFICER OF THE DAY

- Custodian of the Post Colors, altar flag, Bible, ballot box, gavel, and other property for Post meetings.
- Inspect member dues cards at the beginning of each meeting.
- Make Post property available at opening of meeting and retrieve at close of meeting.
- Control balloting when ballots are cast.

DUTIES OF SGT. OF THE GUARD

- Allow no one to enter Post meeting without a current dues receipt or life member card.
- Notify the Officer of the Day of the presence of all distinguished guests.

DUTIES OF THE SERVICE OFFICER

- To assist members of the Post, their widows, orphans, and other worthy cases brought forward in obtaining rightful benefits from federal and state governments.
- Preparation of the proper forms and assembling the evidence required in connection therewith.
- Work shall be performed in accordance with VFW Guide for Post Service Officers with supervision from the Department Service Officer.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

A committee chairman will work diligently to:

- Accomplish the programs assigned by the Post Commander.
- A committee chairman will select volunteers to assist in completing the assigned task in the time allotted.
- A committee chairman will make regular reports to the membership on progress of the committee.
- A committee chairman will select volunteers in adequate numbers to complete the assigned task within the time allotted.

MEETINGS

Regular Post meetings are held the third Saturday of each month from 10:00 am, unless otherwise specified.

Proper Attire: The proper attire for the meeting is a VFW hat, name badge and casual clothes. The name badge and the VFW hat can be purchased from the post quartermaster when you attend the meeting. See him before or after the meeting. He normally has a selection of hat sizes, but he may have to order one if your size is not on hand.

THE COMMANDER'S USE OF GAVEL MEANS:

- A. One loud rap: Be seated and give your attention to the member that has the floor.
- B. Two loud raps: Stand.

When you wish to address the post: Raise your hand for recognition by the commander. When recognized, stand, and salute and state your information or report (in a voice loud enough to be heard by all) i.e., "Sir", (or Comrade Commander) I wish to report on(at the end). state...). "Commander that completes my report." Salute - the commander will return the salute and be seated.

Leaving the meeting room during the course of the meeting: If you wish to leave the meeting room during the course of the meeting, take the following action: "Stand, salute the Commander and retire quietly from the room.

Upon return, salute the Commander and return to your seat."

Meeting ethics: During the course of the meeting, make every effort not to disturb the forum. If discussion is necessary with a fellow member, keep it at a very low tone. If a point is made during a meeting that is not clear to you, do not hesitate to ask for recognition and have the point clarified. Feel free to participate; after all, it is your post!

Make every effort not to pass between the Commander's podium and the altar. This is considered "Hallowed Ground"....in memory of our departed comrades.

QUARTERMASTER'S REPORT

The quartermaster's report of receipt and disbursement is usually condensed so as to expedite the meeting. If a member wishes to re- view the QM's worksheet and ledger for a detailed account of the month's financial activities, the QM and his records will be available at the close of the meeting. The financial records are always open to any post member upon request.

UNIFORM

Post Meetings - The VFW hat is the only hat allowed during meetings, otherwise no hat should be worn.

Proper attire should be worn at all times for post and district meetings.

MOTIONS IN MEETINGS

There are two sections in meeting where post business or money spending motions are entertained: *1.

1. Old business - decisions made on business not finished in the last meeting.
2. New business - new motions are made here.

*1 - Quartermaster can ask for motions on matters pertaining to his report during his report.

Motions are made and acted upon in the following manner. A motion is made then seconded. Then the motion is discussed. After the discussion is finished a vote is taken.

Post Business or money spending motions are not done under Good of the Order

VFW AUXILIARY

The former Ladies Auxiliary VFW, founded in 1914, is the VFW's highly regarded support organization and is considered its "Partner in Service."

Under its former name Ladies Auxiliary VFW, membership within the organization was offered exclusively to female spouses and family members of any member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The gender-specific eligibility requirement remained for more than 100 years until July 20, 2015, when delegates to the VFW's 116th National Convention in Pittsburgh voted to amend the dated by-law to extend the same membership opportunity to eligible males.

Appropriately, the Ladies Auxiliary VFW has changed its official name to the VFW Auxiliary.

We are the nation's oldest veterans' service organization auxiliary with nearly 465,000 members representing all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and several foreign locations (Germany, Guam, and Panama). Our members are relatives of those who have served in overseas combat. For more than 100 years, we have been supporting the Veterans of Foreign Wars, serving veterans and their families, active-duty military and their families, and spreading patriotism nationwide.

During the 2014-2015 Program Year, VFW Auxiliary members:

Provided \$4.6 million dollars in monetary aid to veterans, active-duty military and their families Volunteered nearly 800,000 hours in VA Medical Centers, hospitals, nursing homes and veteran's home.

Made more than 131,000 legislative contacts to help pass or block important bills Awarded \$146,000 in scholarships Worked with more than 285,000 youth Distributed more than 332,000 American Flags Join us and proudly serve veterans, the military and their families, and your community in honor of the sacrifices and commitment of every man and woman who has served in uniform.

MILITARY ORDER OF THE COOTIE

The MOC can trace its ancestry to the Imperial Order of the Dragon a similar fun-loving auxiliary that was affiliated with the United Spanish American War Veterans (USA WV). After World War I, two veterans who were members of both the USA WV and the VFW thought that the VFW might be able to attract more members if it formed an auxiliary modeled on the Imperial Order of the Dragon.

In the years after its founding, the MOC took on several special projects designed to bring smiles to the faces of two special groups of people - hospitalized veterans and residents of the VFW National Home. Its involvement with the National Home came first. In fact, the Cooties were the first to back Amy Ross's plan for the Home, and, in 1924, helped persuade the VFW to sponsor the project. Since then, there has never been a period of any extended length in which the Cooties have not been involved in some project for the Home's betterment or for the happiness of those who live there.

As dear to a Cootie's heart as its National Home projects are, auxiliary members support its program for hospitalized veterans with equal enthusiasm. This program got its start in the 1940's, when auxiliary members

realized that World War II would soon fill the hospitals with sick and wounded veterans. To help these veterans keep their spirits up, many Cooties took it upon themselves to entertain the patients.

Soon Cooties all over the country were visiting hospitalized veterans, pledging to "Keep 'em Smiling in Beds of White." Today this goal is still one of the auxiliary's highest priorities. Many Pup Tents and their Auxiliaries not only work with VAVS Hospital teams, but also perform services of their own at VA Hospitals and nursing homes.

Thousands of Cootie hours and thousands of dollars are donated each year in carrying out this program.

Membership is open to members in good standing in the VFW who have displayed their willingness to work for the parent organization.

The Military Order of the Cootie Auxiliary (MOCA) draws its membership from the ranks of women eighteen and older who have been active members of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary for at least six months and who is the wife, widow, sister, half-sister, daughter, foster daughter, or granddaughter good standing.

POST REGULAR HOLIDAY EVENTS

- **Veterans Day (November 11):** A day to honor all American veterans, both living and deceased, who have served the nation honorably.
- **Memorial Day (Last Monday in May):** A day to remember and honor those who died while serving in the U.S. military.
- **Independence Day (July 4):** A celebration of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, marking the birth of the United States.
- **National POW/MIA Recognition Day (Third Friday in September):** A day to remember and honor prisoners of war and those missing in action.
- **Loyalty Day (May 1):** A day to reaffirm our love for our country and its freedoms.
- **National VFW Day (September 29):** Celebrates the VFW organization and its members who have served the nation.
- **Armed Forces Day (Third Saturday in May):** Honors all branches of the U.S. military.
- **Flag Day (June 14):** Celebrates the adoption of the U.S. flag.
- **Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day (December 7):** Commemorates the attack on Pearl Harbor.

POLITICALLY THE VFW IS ONLY CONCERNED WITH VETERANS AND SERVICEMEN'S ISSUES, NOT PARTISAN POLITICS.

- The VFW has prayers to God in its rituals but does not endorse a particular religion.
- The VFW supports civic and educational activities but does not direct them.
- The VFW offers a hand up to distressed veterans, but not necessarily a handout.
- Draping the Charter is only done for members of our post.
- The use of swear words during meetings is not acceptable.
- To speak to the membership during meetings you have to be recognized by the Commander.
- Interrupting a comrade who has been recognized to speak by the Commander is not allowed.
- When speaking to or addressing a person at a meeting, they should be addressed as —Comrade|| or if they are an officer then they should be addressed as —Comrade (title).

If a member would like to review a copy of the Post By-laws, the Adjutant has the information. If you would like information on the current financial position of the post, the QM has that information.

VOLUNTEERING

Volunteers are the backbone of our post. Without them we would not be able to provide the services we do. Volunteers are needed in every area from working wing night—serving and cooking wings, helping the Auxiliary with steaks and cleanup inside and outside of the post. We are always looking for anyone with special skills that can help with maintenance of the building and equipment. Anything you can do, even if it is just offering your expert advice, is a help in maintaining your post home.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the VFW can be done in two ways. Either as a continuous member who pays their dues annually to the post or as a Life member who is paid up for life.

Do not forget to look at your VFW Membership card for the date to re-new your membership.

Annual Members can pay their dues at Post 10420, online at vfw.org, or by mail directly to VFW National:

VFW National Headquarters Third Floor, Room 316

406 West 34th St.

Kansas City, MO 64111

(Please include your membership #)

If you are a continuous member (one who pays yearly dues) this may be a good time to evaluate life membership. Over the years of life membership use, you may save money versus an annual membership every year.

By becoming a VFW Life Member, you make a lifetime commitment to serving your fellow service members and veterans. That is something to take great pride in. You can also enjoy many great benefits of being a life member!

You will:

- Avoid annual dues and renewals.
- Maintain your membership in any Post you choose, worldwide!
- Never pay an increase in dues—Guaranteed!
- Receive a 10% discount on exclusive VFW Store merchandise for the first year. You can become a VFW Life Member by making a one -time payment as shown below. You can also pay for your Life Membership through our instalment plan, with an initial \$45 payment, with the Life Membership amount billed over an 11-month period. Look at a current new member application for updated Life Membership amounts.

Payment Plan Terms & Conditions: The VFW Life Membership instalment plan allows any VFW member/applicant to purchase a Life Membership by making an initial payment of \$45.00 and (11) monthly payments. The member will be issued an annual membership card and can elect, upon receipt of the first monthly invoice, to pay via check, credit card or ACH Debit. The applicable Life Membership fee is to be determined from the schedule using the applicant's age on Dec. 31 of the instalment plan year in which the application is submitted, regardless of actual date of birth. A permanent Life Membership card will be issued upon completion of this agreement.

Recruiting is everyone's task. If you know a veteran or family member who qualifies, take a moment to tell them of all the good things we do to help veterans. Membership applications are behind the bar available to any Comrade or Auxiliary member for the asking. to help veterans. Membership applications are behind the bar available to any Comrade or Auxiliary member for the asking.

If you have any questions, ask them. Remember, there are no dumb questions. We all started as a new member at some time in the past.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

CLAIMS AND BENEFIT OFFICES - 843-222-8051

HORRY COUNTY - DUAN ELVIS

Location: 1949 Industrial Park Rd. Mailing Address: PO Box 1236 Conway, SC 29526 (Building is located in the Agriculture Facility behind J. Reuben Long)

Detention Center - By Appt Only: Phone: (843) 915-5480 | Fax: (843) 915-6480

GEORGETOWN COUNTY

Location: 537 Lafayette Cir, Georgetown, SC 29440

By Appt Only

Phone: (843)545-3330 Fax: (843)545-3312

DISABLED AMERICA VETERAN AUXILIARY (DAV)

Location: 2987 Church St, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

Phone: 843-650-9264 - POC: Carol Prosser

Veterans welcome Home & resource Center

Location: 421 Highway 57 South, Little River Sc. 29566

Phone: 843-427-4568

Echo Eastern Carolina Homelessness Organization (Homeless Vets)

Location: 1204 N Kings Hug Myrtle Beach, SC 295770

Phone: 843-213-1798

*VA health care is available to apply by phone, call 1-877-222-VETS (8387)

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA REGIONAL OFFICE

Location: 6437 Garner Ferry Rd Columbia, SC 29201

Phone: 1-800-827-1000

REQUEST FOR DD-214 AND MEDICAL RECORDS

Mailing Address: National Personnel Records Center

 Military Personnel Records

 1 Archive Dr St. Louis, MO 63138-5100

Phone: (314)801-0800 (866)-272-6272 Fax: (314)801-9195

Website: www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/get-service-records.html

Department of Veterans Affairs Claims Intake Center

P.O. Box 4444

Janesville, WI 53547-4444

or by fax to: 844-531-7818 (for claimants outside the United States: 248-524-4260)

Myrtle Beach Vet Center

Mailing address: 2024 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 103 Myrtle Beach SC 29577

Phone: 843-465-0713 or 843-477-0177 ext. 2441 - POC: Chris Aranda

E-BENEFITS

www.ebenefits.gov | 800-477-8227

COMMUNITY CARE

Billing: 1-843-789-6763, 843-789-6333

COMMUNITY CARE BILLING HOTLINE: 1-877-881-7618

billing/claims issues

MY HEALTHY VET - Customer Service: 877-327-0022

AGENT ORANGE & GULF WAR EXAM Customer Service: 843-577-5011 EXT 3251

Post-9/11 GI Bill Eligibility: Call 1-888-GI BILL-1 (888-442-4551) to have the application form mailed to you.

VFW POST 10420 - CANTEEN RULES

1. All non-members/guests must be signed in.
2. All non-members/guests should be prepared to show proof of age and valid ID upon request.
3. ALL MEMBERS ARE TO HAVE A CURRENT MEMBERSHIP CARD IN THEIR POSSESSION AT ALL TIMES. Those without cards are to sign in. NO EXCEPTIONS.
4. Children should be supervised by an adult at all times.
5. Members and guests must be appropriately dressed at all times. Footwear is required. Manufactured sleeveless shirts and shorts are acceptable.
6. No open drinks to be carried in or out of the Post, except for events held on the premises.
7. No food is to be brought into the Post as long as food is available.
8. Smoking is allowed only in designated areas outside the canteen/post. (Smoking bunker out back)
9. The use of drugs and/or drug paraphernalia on Post premises is prohibited. Violators will be barred PERMANENTLY from the Post.
10. Neither profanity nor physical violence will be tolerated.
11. Intoxicated individuals will be refused service and asked to leave, and refusal to leave may result in a ban.
12. The bartender is charged with the responsibility of maintaining good order. Is authorized to take whatever action he/she deems necessary to ensure such. All incident reports shall be submitted to the House Committee for review. Disciplinary actions must be documented in Committee meeting minutes. Disciplinary action up to and including suspension of Canteen privileges may be taken at the discretion of the House Committee. Harassing the bartender is considered a serious offence.
13. Avoid negativity or derogatory remarks about other members, officers, or the VFW post.
14. The House Committee is responsible for enforcing rules of decorum and behavior. The Canteen Manager may recommend disciplinary actions regarding employees or members to the House Committee. Final decisions on suspensions or discharges shall rest with the House Committee.
15. Employee complaints should be submitted in writing to the Canteen Manager or any member of the House Committee. Serious issues should be brought before the full Committee for review and resolution.

Commander - Sal Salvino | House Committee Chairman - John Greenhill

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To be posted at front and back doors

Commander - Sal Salvino | House Committee Chairman - John Greenhill